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ABSTRACT

This guide is intended to be a resource for parents of children with special needs who want to improve the early intervention system in North Carolina for their own children and for the whole community. By informing parents about resources that are available for children and families, the guide empowers parents as leaders. Annotated lists of resources are organized into the following categories: (1) training opportunities and information; (2) mentoring opportunities; and (3) services, opportunities and information. The guide contains one appendix, which lists additional program information. (SG)

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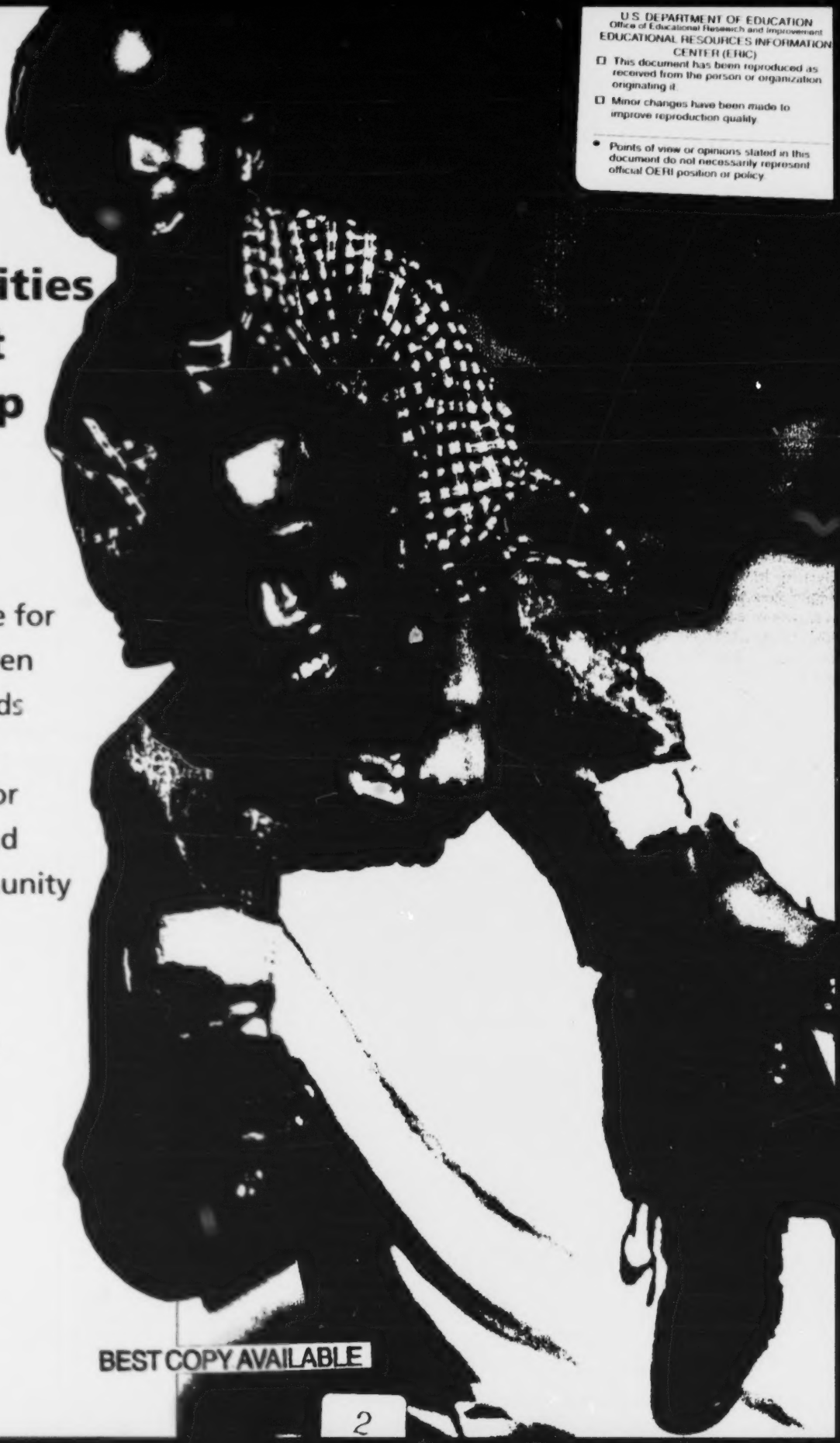
Opportunities for Parent Leadership in North Carolina

A resource guide for parents of children with special needs who are leaders and advocates for their children and the larger community



First edition January 2000
Revised March 2002

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Together We Grow Infant-Toddler Program
North Carolina Early Intervention Services

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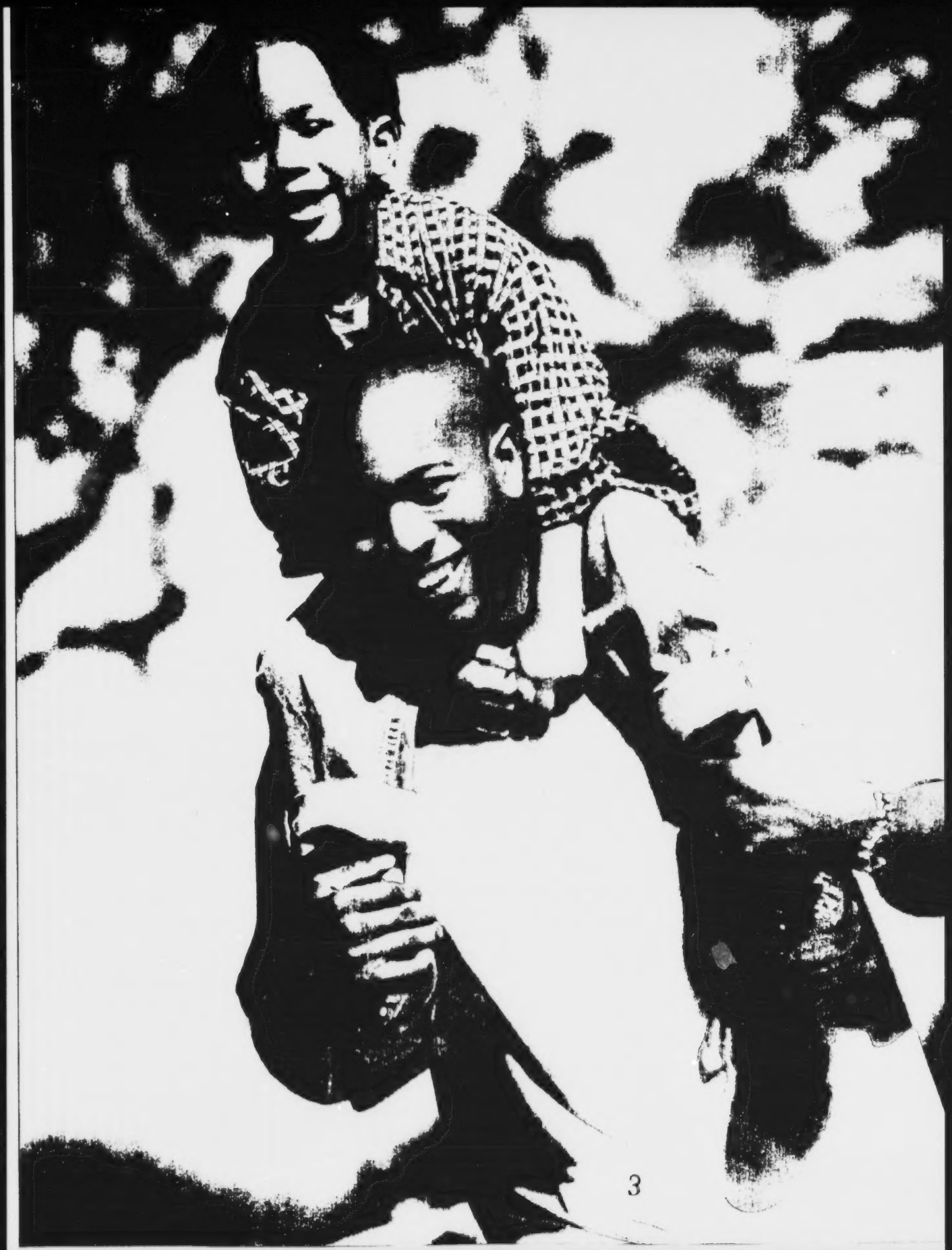

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January 2000
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Infant-Toddler Program
North Carolina Early Intervention Services

This document was funded by the
North Carolina Infant-Toddler Program, Division of Public Health,
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

First edition January 2000
Revised March 2002
Originally compiled by Roxann Colwell, MSW
Additional contributions by Sabrina Tyndall and Allen Stutts

Design by Michael Brady

Permission is freely given to anyone who wishes to copy and distribute this guide to help us in our goal of educating and supporting parent leaders. An electronic copy is available on our website at **http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~pld** .

3,000 copies of this public document were printed for $4,944.88, or $1.65 each.

Contents

Training Opportunities and Information 1

Financial Assistance for Training 3

Human Services Agencies and Groups 4

Newsletters with Listings of Trainings 14

National Seminars and Information Sources 16

Resource Libraries with Materials Available to Parents 18

Helpful Websites 21

State Level 21

National Level or Businesses 25

Mentoring Opportunities 31

Mentoring Opportunities 33

Services, Opportunities and Information 37

Boards, Commissions, Councils, and Committees 39

Organization of this Section 39

Steps 1 and 2 39

Step 3 40

Step 4 40

Note on "Open Meetings" 40

Section A: Local and Regional Boards, Councils, and Committees 42

Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services Boards 42

City Council 45

Community College Boards of Trustees 46

Boards of County Commissioners 48

Local Boards of Education 50

County Boards of Health or District Boards of Health 53

County Boards of Social Services 56

Head Start Council 57

Human Rights Committees 58

Regional Councils of Governments 60

Section B: State Boards, Commissions, and Councils 63
Child Day-Care Commission 63
Children and Youth Parent Advisory Council 65
Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services 66
Commission for the Blind 68
Council for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing 69
Council on Developmental Disabilities 71
Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities 73
Interagency Coordinating Council (NC-ICC) 75
Social Services Commission 77
State Board of Education 79
Study Commission on Children with Special Needs 81
Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office 82
More Opportunities to Serve 85
Organizations 85

Appendix: Additional Program Information 87
Area MH/DD/SAS Programs and Regional Councils of Governments ... 89
Child Care Resource and Referral Network Members (serving birth to 12 years) 100
Area Health Education Centers 106
Community Colleges 107

Introduction

Parents of children with special needs—and the professionals who serve these families—are often eager to assume leadership roles in our state's early intervention system. They understand that parents have unique insights about the needs of their children and that this knowledge could be useful to agencies and organizations serving individuals with special needs.

But even professionals are sometimes puzzled when they face the huge network of overlapping services that are available. This guide, *Opportunities for Parent Leadership in North Carolina,* is designed as a resource for parents who want to improve the system in our state for their own children and for the whole community. By informing parents about resources available for children and families, this guide empowers parents as leaders.

Leadership opportunities are many. Parents may advise local early intervention programs or serve on state boards. Some may write articles for newsletters or local newspapers; others will give presentations to groups of parents or professionals, or co-teach college courses. Parents can be officers for parent groups or establish new groups for support and advocacy.

Whatever your level of expertise, you can use this guide to locate opportunities to continue to develop leadership skills, and to locate organizations for involvement that match your interests. With increases in your ability to communicate effectively with service providers or policy makers, you can begin to apply your leadership skills in effective ways to help make our state and nation a place where those with special needs can reach their full potential.

For decades parents have been instrumental in the growth of services for people with special needs. We invite you to join this formidable force for change, a growing group of motivated, energetic, and empowered parents.

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Training Opportunities and Information

Financial Assistance for Training

Many of the following training opportunities require various fees. However, do not let this discourage you from getting involved, as there are ways to obtain funding. In fact, there are a good many opportunities out there, and we encourage you to be assertive in identifying and applying for them. Be sure to subscribe to various program newsletters and read them carefully for financial assistance opportunities. In addition, many training opportunities have available stipends or other types of financial assistance. We have listed a few below to get you started:

Contact your local Infant-Toddler Preschool Interagency Coordinating Council or Consortia and the Family Support Network. They may have some programs for financial assistance and are usually aware of other opportunities.

Participant Involvement Fund (PIF)
North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities
1001 Navaho, Suite GL-103
Raleigh, NC 27609
Voice/TDD: 919-850-2833
Voice/TDD: 800-357-6916
Fax: 919-850-2895
http://www.nc-ddc.org
Click on the "Participant Involvement Fund Guidelines and Applications" link.
Council Chair: Mark Ezzell
Executive Director: Holly Riddle, J.D., M.Ed.

Provides discretionary funding on a limited basis to people with developmental disabilities, their family members, or their guardians to participate in conferences, training events, public forums, focus groups, committees, task forces, hearings, and other similar activities. The intention of the fund is to empower people with disabilities and their family members with the experiences, resources, and information they need to participate meaningfully in the decisions that are being made which affect their lives. Please contact the PIF by phone or website to find out about funding limits and reimbursement policies.

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Human Services Agencies and Groups

» **The Arc of North Carolina**

16 E. Rowan Street, Suite 204
Raleigh, NC 27609
800-662-8706
919-782-4632
Fax: 919-782-4634
http://www.arcnc.org/
E-mail: arcofnc@arcnc.org

Provides advocacy services, education and support to families and professionals regarding persons with mental retardation and developmental disabilities and the issues that affect their lives. There are currently 44 chapters across the state and each one operates as a separate nonprofit agency providing for its own local choice and level of advocacy, services, and training opportunities.

» **Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)**

CB# 7165, 101 Medical Drive
UNC–CH
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7165
919-966-2461
Fax: 919-966-5830
http://www.med.unc.edu/wrkunits/7ahec/ahec/
E-mail: ncahec@med.unc.edu

There are nine centers across the state that provide a variety of training events in the field of mental health, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, nursing, management, and personal growth.

» **Autism Society of North Carolina**

505 Oberlin Road, Suite 230
Raleigh, NC 27605-1345
919-743-0204
800-442-2762 (NC only)
Fax: 919-743-0208
http://www.autismsociety-nc.org/
E-mail: training@autismsociety-nc.org
Executive director: Jill Keel

Provides leadership retreats to local unit leaders that are identified across the state.

» **BEGINNINGS for Parents of Children Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Inc.**

P.O. Box 17646
Raleigh, NC 27619
Voice/TTY: 800-541-HEAR (800-541-4327) Toll-free for NC residents only
Voice/TTY: 919-850-2746 local and outside NC
http://www.beginningssvcs.com/

BEGINNINGS supports the families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as deaf parents with hearing children and the professionals who serve them. BEGINNINGS gives information, support, and training to help families make educational decisions and obtain appropriate services, and it provides information on available communications options for a child who is deaf or hard of hearing so the family can choose the option most appropriate for their child.

» **Community Living Association**

N.C. TASH
P.O. Box 25746
Raleigh, NC 27611-5746
410-828-8274
Fax: 410-828-6706

http://www.nccla.org

The North Carolina Community Living Association (CLA) began in 1976, and advocates for high quality, integrative, inclusive community-based services for persons with developmental disabilities of all ages. While the CLA focused for many years on services for adults, it has recently begun to focus on having a larger share of its membership from families of children (parents of infants and toddlers, preschool, and school-aged children). The common thread is an interest in developing strong community-based services for people with developmental disabilities, thereby weaving together stronger communities.

During its 1999 Annual Conference, the CLA completed its vote to affiliate with TASH (formerly The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps). This national organization is a leading advocacy organization for children and adults with severe disabilities.

» **Developmental Disabilities Training Institute (DDTI)**

CB#3370, 1700 Airport Road
UNC–CH
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3370
919-966-5463
Fax: 919-962-5837
http:// www.unc.edu/depts/ddti/

Provides research, training, and consultation regarding services for people with developmental disabilities. DDTI typically works directly with staff within agencies, yet they support parent and family participation in their trainings and hire parents as staff.

» **The Duke University Certificate Program in Nonprofit Management**

919-684-6259
http://www.learnmore.duke.edu
E-mail: learn@duke.edu

A collaborative effort by many colleges and agencies across the state that provides an array of low-cost, high-impact programs for persons working with or for nonprofit organizations, churches, foundations or government agencies. Contact them for more information regarding course listings and locations.

» **Early Childhood Resource Center**

Research Triangle Institute
919-541-6224
http://www.rti.org/child/
E-mail: child@rti.org

Offers assistance to practitioners and policy makers in planning and implementing child- and parent-focused programs that can improve the lives of our youngest children by providing up-to-date research-based resources, curricula, training, and technical assistance.

» **Early Intervention Training and Technical Assistance System (EITTAS)**

Deborah Carroll, Ph.D.
919-715-7500, ext. 236 (state office)
Fax: 919-733-3075
E-mail: Deborah.Carroll@ncmail.net

A collaboration between parents, training providers, and early intervention agencies to provide monetary and human resource support to the professionals who serve the families of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. This program operates out of four regional offices as well as on the state level.

Western Region
Anne-Marie deKort-Young
NC School for the Deaf
517 West Fleming Drive
Morganton, NC 28655
Phone: 828-430-7812
Fax: 828-430-7815
E-mail: AnneMarie.DeKort-Young@ncmail.net

North Central Region
Meryl Murphy
Greensboro DEC
Self-Help Public Interest Center
122 North Elm Street, Suite 400
Greensboro, NC 27401
Phone: 336-334-5601
Fax: 336-334-5657
E-mail: Meryl.Murphy@ncmail.net

South Central Region
Gloria Cates
Fayetteville DEC
1211-A Ireland Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28304
Phone: 910-486-1605 ext. 223
Fax: 910-486-1590
E-mail: Gloria.Cates@ncmail.net

Eastern Region
Sherry Elliott
Caswell Center
2415 West Vernon Avenue
Kinston, NC 28504-3321
Phone: 252-208-3801
Fax: 252-522-5078
E-mail: Sherry.Elliott@ncmail.net
http://www.caswellcenter.org

» **Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC)**

907 Barra Row, Suites 102/103
Davidson, NC 28036
Voice/TTD: 704-892-1321
Fax: 704-892-5028
Parent Information Line: 800-962-6817
E-mail: information@ecac-parentcenter.org
http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/

A private nonprofit organization committed to improving the lives and education of all children with a special emphasis on children with disabilities. ECAC affirms the right of individuals of all backgrounds and cultures, with or without disabilities, to an appropriate education. They seek to make that right a reality by providing information, education, outreach, and support to and for families with children who have special needs across the state of North Carolina. They offer individual assistance, information and referral, parent-to-parent groups, parent education workshops, a newsletter, information to parent groups, and a lending library. Many materials are also provided in Spanish.

» **Family Support Network of North Carolina (FSN–NC)**

CB# 7340 Chase Hall
UNC–CH
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7340
919-966-2841
800-852-0042
Fax: 919-966-2916
E-mail: cdr@med.unc.edu

http://www.fsnnc.org

Enhances the lives of children with special needs by working with their families and the professionals who serve them. Facilitates the development of family-centered services through a statewide network of community-based parent-to-parent programs, parent-professional collaboration, and its Central Directory of Resources, an information and referral service. Locally based parent-to-parent programs offer support, information and training on a variety of topics including parent mentoring.

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» **First in Families of North Carolina**

P.O. Box 16
Davidson, NC 28036
800-962-6817

Cindy Parkey
3006 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27633-3006
919-733-4665

Betsy McMichael
3522 Hayworth Drive
Raleigh, NC 27609
919-781-3616 ext. 233

http://www.firstinfamiliesofnc.org/

Consists of five projects that offer service brokerage, resource matching, cash assistance, etc. so that families with disabilities may live as much like other families as possible. Managed by the Developmental Disabilities section of the Division of MH/DD/SAS in collaboration with the N.C. Council on Developmental Disabilities and other key stakeholders.

» **Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities (GACPD)**

http://www.doa.state.nc.us/gacpd/gacpd.htm

Street Address: 2113 Cameron Street, Suite 218
Raleigh, North Carolina 27605-1344

Mailing Address: 1314 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1314

919-733-9250
800-821-6922 for general information and intake services
Contact Person: Allen H. Perry, Director
E-mail: gacpd@ncmail.net

Has four regional offices staffed with advocates and attorneys who provide information, advocacy services, and legal representation in situations involving the rights of persons with disabilities. Regional offices also investigate allegations of discrimination in education, daycare, employment, treatment, transportation, and other areas.

To initiate case advocacy services, one must go through intake at 800-821-6922.

Eastern Regional Office
201 Stevens Mill Road
Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530
Telephone for existing clients: 877-254-7533
Toll-free TTY: 877-877-3526
Fax: 919-731-3787
Contact Person: Tamara Boyd, Regional Manager
919-581-1029 ext. 13

Western Regional Office
10 Watkins Drive
Morganton, North Carolina 28655

Telephone for existing clients: 877-877-1675
Toll-free TTY: 877-877-2672
Fax: 828-433-2185
Contact Person: Kathy Smith, Regional Manager
828-430-7188

North Central Regional Office
205-A West E. Street
Butner, North Carolina 27509
Telephone for existing clients: 877-510-2688
Toll-free TTY: 877-775-3380
Fax: 919-575-3021
Contact Person: Idell Pierce, Regional Manager
919-575-3019

South Central Regional Office
1010 Richardson Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Telephone for existing clients: 877-296-3096
Toll-free TTY: 888-733-6526
Fax: 919-733-9479
Contact Person: Deloris Arceneaux, Regional Manager
919-733-9481

» **Mediation Network of North Carolina**

P.O. Box 241
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-0241
919-929-6333
Fax: 919-933-4465
E-mail: mnnc@mnnc.org
http://www.mediate.com/mnnc

Has developed training in communication skills and conflict resolution that can be very useful for adult advocates. As well, they have developed a conflict resolution curriculum for students at various grade levels using age-appropriate techniques. Activities, games, and songs teach K–6 graders about conflict resolution and peer mediation. A deeper understanding is developed in middle and high school students by addressing such issues as communication, negotiation, and mediation. The Mediation Network also provides trainer manuals for those who wish to implement this curriculum.

» **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, North Carolina chapter (NAMINC)**

309 W. Millbrook Road, Suite 121
Raleigh, NC 27609
919-788-0801
Help-line: 800-451-9682 (NC only)
Fax: 919-788-0906
E-mail: mail@naminc.org
http://www.naminc.org

Self-help and advocacy organization for persons with mental illness. The Alliance supports the families and friends of children who have or are at risk for such disabilities as attention deficit disorder, hyperactivity, serious emotional problems, depression, or other forms of mental illness. The NAMI North Carolina Young Families Program produces a quarterly newsletter.

» National Early Childhood Technical Assistance System (NECTAS)

FPG Child Development Institute
CB# 8040 137 East Franklin Street, Suite 500
UNC–CH
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-962-2001
TDD: 877-574-3194
E-mail: nectas@unc.edu
http://www.nectas.unc.edu/

Provides an overview to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), information about Part C, Part B-Section 619, and information about the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council, publications and other resources on the Web related to services for young children with disabilities and their families.

» North Carolina Child Advocacy Institute (NCCAI)

311 E. Edenton Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27610
919-834-6623 ext. 229
Fax: 919-829-7299
E-mail: nccai@intrex.net
http://www.ncchild.org

An independent, non-profit, non-partisan organization working to improve public policy choices and state appropriations affecting North Carolinians below the age of eighteen. The NCCAI pursues three interrelated areas of activity:

1. Public **action,** which involves educating people about children's issues, training child advocates, and leading individuals and groups to act on behalf of children
2. Public **policy,** which involves improving state laws and policies and funding and developing coalitions that continue to shape public policy
3. Public **information,** which involves establishing the "Knowledge Exchange," an information and referral resource website that provides up-to-date facts and figures about children and youth.

» North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

1001 Navaho, Suite GL-103
Raleigh, NC 27609
Voice/TDD: 919-850-2833
Voice/TDD: 800-357-6916
Fax: 919-850-2895
http://www.nc-ddc.org
Council Chair: Mark Ezzell
Executive Director: Holly Riddle, J.D., M.Ed.

A statewide council that works with organizations and groups around the state to promote self determination, full citizenship and inclusion for over 120,000 North Carolinians with developmental disabilities and their families. It also advises the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and all other state entities receiving federal funds for developmental disabilities services pursuant to Public Law 104-183, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1996.

» **North Carolina Education and Law Project**

P.O. Box 28068
Raleigh, NC 27611-8068
919-856-2176
Fax: 919-856-2175
Sheria Reid, Project Director
E-mail: edlaw@ncjustice.org
http://www.ncjustice.org/edlaw/

A statewide project based in Raleigh that is dedicated to improving educational opportunities and outcomes for low-income parents. It does this through four strategies: training and empowering low-income parents to become more involved; educating these parents on their rights and responsibilities; performing education policy research and analysis of issues affecting low-income students; and creating and improving education programs for low-income students in the public schools through legal and policy advocacy. Sponsors the Parent Education Studies Program described later in this section.

» **North Carolina Family Resource Coalition**

1307 Walnut Street
Greensboro, NC 27405
336-288-9264
Fax: 336-545-0162
Laura Weber, Co-Collaboration Manager

A partnership of parents, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and educational systems that are committed to strengthening family support efforts in the state. Focuses on developing and providing family support training (North Carolina Family Support Training and Credentialing Initiative), on creating a statewide standard of family support work, on recommending ways of more effectively linking families with appropriate support services, and on fostering public and private partnerships. They also have a Family Leadership Development training committee and an initiative whose mission is to develop and strengthen individuals, families, and organizations so that they can advocate for families and their constituents.

» **North Carolina Parenting Education Network (PEN)**

Karen DeBord
313 Chapanoke Road, Suite 140
Raleigh, NC 27603
919-515-9147
Fax: 919-515-2786
E-mail: karen_debord@ncsu.edu
http://www.ncpen.org/

A statewide partnership of parents and organizations dedicated to effective parent education, particularly for parents and children in at-risk situations. An initiative of the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service at North Carolina State University. A newsletter is produced and a large conference is being planned. They are also developing a directory of statewide numbers of service for parents.

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» **North Carolina Partnership for Children (NCPC)**

1100 Wake Forest Road
Raleigh, NC 27604
919-821-7999
http://www.smartstart-NC.org

A public-private initiative designed to provide all children with access to high quality and affordable child care, health care, and family support services. Offers a Parent Resource Line at 1-800-367-2229, providing information about your child's growth, health, and safety. To contact the Partnership for Children office in your county, call the Family Support Network of NC at 1-800-852-0042.

» **Parenting Education/Fatherhood (NC Division of Public Health)**

Sheila Bazemore
1928 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1928
919-715-3422
E-mail: sheila.bazemore@ncmail.net
http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dph/
Effective-parenting education materials, consultation, training and presentations are available upon request from the state office. Parenting Education classes are offered through many local health agencies.

» **Parent Education Studies Program (PESP)**

224 South Dawson Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
Yvonne Perry
919-856-2176
E-mail: yvonnep@ncjustice.org
http://www.ncjustice.org/edlaw

PESP is a nationally recognized program designed to empower parents. The training covers three weekends and is designed to give parents the knowledge and skills necessary to be fully involved in their child's education and to lead efforts to improve schools at the community level. Hispanic focus is a recent addition. This program is sponsored by the North Carolina Education and Law Project. See above.

» **Parent Leadership Development Project (PLD)**

Theresa Sull or Allen Stutts
CB# 8185 Sheryl-Mar Building
UNC–CH
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8185
919-843-4133
856-295-5417
Fax: 919-843-5784
E-mail: theresa_sull@unc.edu or allen_stutts@unc.edu
http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~pld

Focuses on early education and intervention services. Recruits parents and other family members interested in developing or improving partnerships with professionals and offers them intensive training and follow-up activities designed to develop their leadership skills.

» Partners in Policy Making

Easter Seals of North Carolina
Main Office
2315 Myron Drive
Raleigh, NC 27607
919-783-8898
800-662-7119
Fax: 919-782-5486
E-mail: info@nc.easter-seals.org.
http://www.esnc.org/

An innovative model of leadership training for parents and self-advocates. Provides state-of-the-art knowledge about developmental disabilities issues and helps build competencies necessary to become advocates who effectively influence public officials. Educates participants about current issues and familiarizes them with the policymaking and legislative processes at the local, state, and federal levels as a means of achieving a productive partnership between people needing and using services and those in a position to make policy and law. An initiative of the NC Developmental Disabilities Consortium in collaboration with the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities.

» Partnership for Inclusion (PFI)

Pat Wesley, Director
CB# 8185 Sheryl-Mar Building
UNC–CH
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8185
919-962-7356
E-mail: pat_wesley@unc.edu
http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~pfi/

A statewide technical assistance project with offices in the western, central, and eastern regions of North Carolina. Administratively housed at the FPG Child Development Institute at UNC–Chapel Hill, PFI provides technical assistance to support the inclusion of young children with disabilities, ages birth through five, in all aspects of community life. Project staff work closely with a variety of individuals and groups. Typically these include: public schools, child care and preschool programs, early intervention agencies, resource and referral agencies, Smart Start partnerships, community colleges, interagency councils, and family support organizations. PFI offers an array of services, including consultation, training, assistance in strategic planning and program evaluation, resource linking, and a magazine that highlights issues and programs in early childhood inclusion.

» TelAbility

1101 Weaver Dairy Road, Suite 202
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-843-0427
http://www.telability.org

TelAbility is an innovative, community oriented, interdisciplinary program that uses telecommunications to improve the lives of children with disabilities. Using real time video-conferencing and internet technologies, TelAbility provides comprehensive, coordinated, family centered care to children with disabilities across North Carolina and offers education, training, and peer support for people who care for them.

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Newsletters with Listings of Trainings

» **All Together Now**

Molly Weston
919-966-0059
Fax: 919-966-0862
E-mail: Molly_Weston@unc.edu
http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~pfi/Pages/Products/ATN.htm

A North Carolina early childhood education magazine promoting quality education for all children, those with and without special needs. The magazine includes a range of articles for both parents and professionals as well as an extensive training calendar.

» **Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)**

There are nine health centers across the state that organize trainings in the areas of mental health, nursing, etc. They provide seasonal calendars or individual event brochures for those on their mailing list. (See AHEC addresses and phone numbers in the Appendix, page 106.)

» **Check-It-Out**

http://www.check-it-out.org
Jennifer Ray
704-336-6630
E-mail: jray@earthlink.net

This is the statewide assistive technology lending library website. An electronic training calendar is available under "Related Websites." This calendar is updated weekly and keeps early childhood personnel informed about current training events. Users can search events by topics. Forms to submit or information about training opportunities can be obtained at the address above. This site is also a good resource for information on statewide conferences.

» **Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC)**

Voice/TTD: 704-892-1321
Parent Information Line: 800-962-6817
E-mail: information@ecac-parentcenter.org
http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/

A private nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting and educating the parents of children with special needs while encouraging them to take an active part in seeking out beneficial services. It offers individual assistance, information and referral, parent-to-parent groups, parent education workshops, a newsletter, information to parent groups, and a lending library. Many materials are provided in Spanish.

» **Family Voices of North Carolina**

Grace Sisco
704-892-1321
E-mail: ECACNCFV@aol.com
http://www.familyvoices.org/st/NorthCarolina.html

Family Voices of North Carolina is a state chapter of a national grassroots network of families and friends speaking on behalf of children with special health care needs and is a project of the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC). Primarily concerned with health and related services, Family Voices seeks to have family concerns heard during public and private policy discussions. Family Voices also provides information, referral, and personal assistance to families regarding health insurance, accessing needed programs, and consumer protections. Family Voices distributes a quarterly newsletter concerning national and state issues, resources, services, training, and volunteer opportunities.

» **Mediation Training and Information Center for the ADA**

202-274-1822
888-528-1609
TDD: 800-630-1051
http://www.keybridge.org
E-mail: mail@keybridge.org

Provides information to educate individuals and groups about the Americans with Disabilities Act and how it affects the workplace. Trains volunteers to become mediators in Title I (employment) disputes and other disputes which might arise under ADA. Produces a newsletter and runs a website.

» **The Connection**

Murdoch Outreach Training Center
205-B West E Street
Butner, NC 27509
Editor: Sandra Royster
E-mail: Sandra.Royster@ncmail.net
919-575-3154
Fax: 919-575-3142

A training newsletter published monthly by community services of the Murdoch Center. Items are selected for their interest to those providing services in the field of Developmental Disabilities. Available in print or by e-mail.

» **The Sharing Network**

Caswell Center
2415 W. Vernon Avenue
Kinston, NC 28504-3321
Sandra Hardison, Editor/Coordinator Agency Services
252-208-3811
Fax: 252-208-3771
E-mail: sandra.hardison@ncmail.net
http://www.caswellcenter.org/Publications/publications.html

This is an Eastern Region newsletter, published monthly by the Caswell Center. It provides a listing of regionally available training, resources, information, news, and potential grant sources.

National Seminars and Information Sources

The following seminar and resource groups are just some of the available organizations from which you can obtain materials and information.

» **Career Track / Fred Pryor Seminars / e-train**

9757 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
800-556-2996
E-mail: customerservice@etrain.com
http://www.careertrack.com/index.asp

Provides a broad array of seminar topics, offered through actual meetings, online groups, and written materials. Subjects include building leadership skills, conflict resolution, building trust, writing skills, presentation skills, finance and accounting, and computers. These seminars are utilized by people in all facets of life and work and could prove useful to parents intent on building various skills. The seminars are located in numerous cities across the state and country.

» **HRDQ (Human Resource Development Quarterly)**

2002 Renaissance Boulevard #100
King of Prussia, PA 19406-2756
800-633-4533
610-279-2002
Fax: 800-633-3683
E-mail: custserv@hrdq.com.
http://www.hrdq.com

HRDQ developed theory-based, results-driven training solutions that help organizations maximize the potential of their human resources. They publish a catalog of learning materials for consultants, facilitators, and human resource professionals as well as a newsletter. HRDQ provides off-the-shelf training and development resources and customized services to corporate, educational, and industry-related organizations.

» **Skill Path Seminars**

6900 Squibb Road
P.O. Box 2768
Mission, KS 66201-2768
800-873-7545
Fax: 913-362-4241
E-mail: custserv@skillpath.net
http://www.skillpath.com

Self-improvement, professional training classes, corporate training courses, software training. A division of the Graceland College Center for Professional Development and Lifelong Learning, Inc.

» **Telling Your Family Story . . . Parents as Presenters**

Parent Projects
Waisman Center
University of Wisconsin-Madison
1500 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI 53705-2280
608-263-5776 or 608-263-5910
TDD: 608-263-0802
Fax: 608-263-0529
http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/

A video and video guide booklet designed to help parents who are interested in bettering their presentation skills as they begin telling their family stories. *Note:* Keep in mind that this video and guide are available at the NC Early Intervention Library, along with numerous other books and videos on leadership, collaboration, and interpersonal skill development. (See listing in next section, "Resource Libraries.")

» **Mediation Training and Information Center for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

202-274-1822
888-528-1609
TDD: 800-630-1051
E-mail: mail@keybridge.org
http://www.keybridge.org

Provides information to educate individuals and groups about the Americans with Disabilities Act and how it affects the workplace. Trains volunteers to become mediators in Title I (employment) disputes and other disputes which might arise under ADA. Produces a newsletter and runs a website.

Resource Libraries with Materials Available to Parents

» **Access to Respite Care and Help (ARCH)**

National Network of Crisis Nurseries and Respite Care Programs
Lending Library Catalog
Chapel Hill Training Outreach Project
800 Eastowne Drive, Suite 105
Chapel Hill , NC 27514
800-473-1727 ext. 222
http://www.chtop.com/locator.htm

This lending library is a collaborative project between the Region IV Region Access Project with Head Start in the Southeastern United States and the Arch National Resource Center. It holds a wide variety of topics including advocacy, legislation, parent component/policy, planning techniques and more.

» **Assistive Technology Resource Centers**

Assistive technology is any piece of equipment that is used to increase independence for an individual with a disability and may include such "tools" as job accommodation, mobility, aids for daily living, computer access, augmentative communication, environmental control, visual and hearing devices, and switch access. There are several centers located across the state:

NC Assistive Technology Project
1110 Navaho Drive, Suite 101
Raleigh, NC 27609-7322
Contact: Sonya Van Horn, South Central Region
Voice/TDD: 919-850-2787
E-mail: svarn@mindspring.com

NC Assistive Technology Project
2313 Executive Park Circle
Greenville, NC 27834
Contact: Sandra Baldwin, Eastern Region
Voice/TDD: 252-830-8575
E-mail: ncatp@abaco.coastalnet.com

NC Assistive Technology Project
Whitaker Rehab Hospital
3333 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
Contact: Harriet Forbis, North Central Region
336-718-1660
E-mail: harrietf@mindspring.com

NC Assistive Technology Project
1200 Blythe Boulevard
Rankin Building
Charlotte, NC 28203
Contact: Michael Panther, Western Region
704-355-2703
E-mail: pantherm@mindspring.com

Assistive Technology Center
Comp Rehab Plaza
131 Miller Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
Contact: David Hooper
336-716-8030

Assistive Technology Resource Center of Western North Carolina
68 Sweeten Creek Road
Asheville, NC 28803
Contact: Jenny Womack
828-274-2400, ext. 4030

Comprehensive Assistive Technology Services
Western Carolina Center
300 Enola Road
Morganton, NC 28655
Contact: Marge Turowski
828-433-2850

» **Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC)**

Voice/TTD: 704-892-1321
Fax: 704-892-5028
Parent Information Line: 800-962-6817
E-mail: information@ecac-parentcenter.org
http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/

It's easy to borrow these books, videos, and audio tapes. Just call the ECAC office to request an item or library listing. Materials will be mailed to you along with a postage paid, pre-addressed envelope in which to return the borrowed items.

» **Family Support Network of North Carolina Outreach Library**

919-966-2841
800-852-0042
Fax: 919-966-2916
E-mail: cdr@med.unc.edu
http://fsnnc.med.unc.edu/

The library contains materials on a wide variety of topics, specializing in books, videos, and articles for foster families and for adolescents and young adults with disabilities. Materials may be borrowed by phone free of charge and with free return postage.

» **Developmental Disabilities Section Video Series**

NC Department of Health and Human Services
Division of MH/DD/SAS, Developmental Disabilities Services
3006 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-3006
919-733-3654
Fax: 919-715-3604
Pat Porter, Chief, Developmental Disabilities Section
E-mail: pat.porter@ncmail.net
http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas/

A series of videos that inform all interested parties about developmental disabilities services and systems in North Carolina. They are available in three forms: standard VHS, captioned, and Spanish language.
Topics include:

- » Single Portal System
- » Children's Services
- » Residential Services
- » Vocational/Day Services
- » Periodic Support Services

Contact the Developmental Disabilities office for more information on availability

» **NC Early Intervention Library**

EITTAS
517 West Fleming Drive, NCSD Campus
Morganton, NC 28655
828-432-5970
Fax: 828-430-7815
E-mail: ncei.library@ncmail.net

Houses a variety of topics in the field of early intervention, collaboration, team building and leadership. Resources may be checked out for one month, and postage is paid for parents using the library.

» **NC State Library Audio Visual Section / Film Services**

Video Services
State Library of North Carolina
4642 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4642
Video Services Librarian: Angie Suhr
919-733-4489
Fax: 919-733-5679
E-mail: asuhr@library.dcr.state.nc.us
http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/rsb/videoservices.htm

Houses a variety of training materials including disability awareness, teamwork, and leadership skills development.

Helpful Websites

State Level

» **The Arc of North Carolina**

http://www.arcnc.org/

Provides advocacy, education and support to families and professionals regarding persons with mental retardation and developmental disabilities and the issues that affect their lives. There are currently 44 chapters across the state and each one operates as a separate nonprofit agency providing for its own choice and level of advocacy, services, and training opportunities.

» **Carolina Computer Access Center**

http://ccac.ataccess.org/

This center is located in Charlotte, NC, and is intended to provide information and access to the technology tools that enable individuals with disabilities to control and direct their own lives.

» **Carolina Connection: Partnerships in Assistive Technology (PAT)**

http://www.pat.org

A service of PAT that provides access to assistive technology information regarding such resources as computer access, augmentative communication, power mobility, and environmental control.

» **Charlotte Institute of Rehabilitation's Assistive Technology Team**

(serves the Western North Carolina Region)

http://www.carolinas.org/services/rehab/cir/Assistive.cfm

The Western Region's assistive technology team. Provides information and assistance with augmentative communications, hearing evaluations, equipment for activities of daily living, computers, and job site modifications. Runs a program to lend recycled assistive equipment to people who have no insurance funding or otherwise cannot afford it.

» **Children and Youth Branch of the NC Division of Public Health**

http://wch.dhhs.state.nc.us/cay.htm

Information on preventative health services, children's specialized services, and genetic health care.

» **CHIP – Children's Health Insurance Program (NC Health Choice for Children)**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/cpcont.htm

Designed to provide health insurance coverage for free or at reduced rates to the children of families who make too much money to qualify for Medicaid but too little to afford to purchase insurance. The coverage is the same as that provided for the children of state employees, plus vision, hearing and dental benefits.

» **Department of Health and Human Services**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/

It protects the public health, fosters self-reliance and helps the vulnerable by working in local offices, schools and hospitals.

» **Division of Child Development**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dcd/

Dedicated to promoting high quality early childhood experience. Provides information for both parents and providers. Also equipped with a search engine to aid in identifying what services are available in each area.

» **Division of Medical Assistance**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma

Information on the organization's structure, services, and publications. The mission of the Division of Medical Assistance is to manage the Medicaid program efficiently so that cost effective health care services are available through enrolled providers to all eligible persons across the state.

» **Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas

The Division makes policies and rules and monitors public services to people with mental illness, developmental disabilities or substance abuse throughout North Carolina. Services are provided through local programs statewide. Contains information about local services.

» **Division of Public Health**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dph/

The Division of Public Health covers a wide range of programs and services aimed toward protecting and improving the health of North Carolinians.

» **Division of Services for the Blind**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dsb/

The programs within the Division provide or coordinate services in areas related to education, independent living, vocational rehabilitation, and the prevention of blindness.

» **Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/docs/divinfo/dsdhh.htm

This division provides a variety of services including interpreter services, advocacy, access to technology, and coordination of human services.

» **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/docs/divinfo/dvr.htm

Vocational rehabilitation counselors work with business and community agencies to help them prepare their worksites to accommodate employees who have physical or mental disabilities. The division also provides services that encourage and reinforce independent living for the disabled, through two main components: the Vocational Rehabilitation Program and the Independent Living Services Program. Rehabilitation counselors in vocational rehabilitation offices across the state are available to assist people with disabilities with individualized plans to meet their unique needs. Counselors can provide vocational evaluations, job training, guidance and counseling. They help disabled people make the transition from rehabilitation to employment and educate them about the kinds of technology available that could increase independence.

» **Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC)**

http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org

It's easy to borrow these books, videos, and audio tapes. Just call the ECAC Office to request an item or library listing. Materials will be mailed to you along with a postage paid, pre-addressed envelope in which to return the borrowed items.

» **Family Support Network of North Carolina (FSN)**

http://www.fsnnc.org

Access to the Central Directory of Resources and information on Parent-to-Parent programs, and selected links.

» **Family Voices**

http://www.familyvoices.org

A national, grassroots clearinghouse for information and education concerning the health care of children with special health needs. Addressed to children, families, caregivers, professionals, and friends. Resource links (also in Spanish), up-to-date information, and publications.

» **FPG Child Development Institute**

http://www.fpg.unc.edu

Major topics of research include factors promoting optimal outcomes for children with disabilities and those at risk for school failure, inclusion issues, and issues for individuals with disabilities across all ages.

» **Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities**

http://www.doa.state.nc.us/doa/gacpd/gacpd.htm

Part of a nationwide system that provides civil rights protection to citizens with disabilities.

» **Mediation Network of North Carolina**

http://www.mediate.com/mnnc

Has developed a conflict resolution curriculum for students at various grade levels using age-appropriate techniques. The Mediation Network also provides trainer manuals for those who wish to implement this curriculum.

» **Medicaid In Depth (Division of Medical Assistance)**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/

Comprehensive information on the Medicaid program in North Carolina.

» **Mental Health Services**

http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas/

(See Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, above)

» **North Carolina Center for Nonprofits**

http://www.ncnonprofits.org

Covers a variety of issues related to nonprofit organizations.

» **North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities**

http://nc-ddc.org

Promotes a community service delivery system that is personalized to meet the unique needs of each individual with a developmental disability. Funds community partners across the state, provides information, and advocates for the disabled. Strongly encourages leadership roles for people with disabilities and their families.

» **North Carolina Medical Society**

http://www.ncmedsoc.org

The site primarily serves health care professionals but does have a very good resource section that provides links to information on health care terminology, legislation, and research.

» **North Carolina Parenting Education Network (PEN)**

http://www.ncpen.org/

The North Carolina Parenting Education Network (NCPEN) facilitates statewide linkages among parents and other partners to encourage positive parenting practices and works to build the field of parenting education in the state with a focus on partnerships between parents and child care providers, teachers, and parent educators. The goal of parent education is to provide assistance and support to parents to promote optimal growth for the children in the family and to focus on risk prevention by building on parent strengths. An initiative of the Cooperative Extension Service at North Carolina State University. A newsletter is

produced and a large conference is being planned. They are also developing a directory of statewide numbers of service for parents.

» **State of North Carolina Web Server**

http://www.state.nc.us

The official website of the state of North Carolina. A good place to start when looking for state government resources.

National Level or Businesses

» **Accessible Travel Source**

http://www.access-able.com

Gives travel information on locations that are wheelchair accessible.

» **American Council of the Blind**

http://www.acb.org/

The Council strives to improve the well-being of all blind and visually impaired people by: serving as a representative national organization of blind people; elevating the social, economic and cultural levels of blind people by encouraging and assisting all blind persons to develop their abilities and conducting a public education program to promote greater understanding of blindness and the capabilities of blind people.

» **American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA)**

http://www.asha.org

A professional organization for professionals in the fields of speech, language, and hearing. The site is intended to be a resource for ASHA members, persons interested in information about communication disorders, and those wanting career and membership information.

» **Beach Center of Families and Disability**

http://www.beachcenter.org/

A rehabilitation research and training center on public policy affecting families who have children with disabilities. Links to research briefs, newsletters, products, support organization and more.

» **Children's Health Issues**

http://kidshealth.org

Provides a variety of information concerning children's health care issues.

» **CHOICES Transition Project (Children's Healthcare Options Improved through Collaborative Efforts and Services)**

http://www.shrinershq.org/choices/index.html

Promoting a comprehensive system of family-centered, culturally competent, community-based care for children with special health care needs who are approaching adulthood and may need assistance in making the transition from pediatric to adult health care and to post-secondary education and/or employment.

» **Consortium of Developmental Disabilities Councils**

http://www.cddc.comhttp://www.cddc.com http://www.cddc.com

A member-driven organization committed to representing the diverse interests of Developmental Disabilities Councils and the people with disabilities that the councils were created to serve. A good resource to keep informed on policy and legislation regarding developmental disabilities.

» **Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)**

http://www.cec.sped.org/index.html

The largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and the gifted. Manages a number of grants, contracts, and research projects.

» **Creative Communicating**

http://www.creative-comm.com

A small, private company that provides materials for children with disabilities and educational resources for parents and service providers. Also provides information on workshops and a quarterly newsletter.

» **Disability Solutions**

http://www.disabilitysolutions.org

A newsletter published six times a year as a resource for families and others interested in Down Syndrome and related disabilities.

» **DO-IT Program (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, and Technology)**

http://www.washington.edu/doit

Sponsors a wide variety of programs to help and encourage disabled people of all ages in the pursuit of assistive technology resources, educational and professional opportunity, and cooperation for success.

» **Down Syndrome On-Line magazine**

http://www.epix.net/~mcross/down-syn.html

An online magazine focusing on the personal experiences of those who live with Down Syndrome.

» **Exceptional Parent Magazine**

http://www.eparent.com

Provides information to parents and families of children with disabilities and the professionals who work with them.

» **Family Village**

http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu

Uses the power of the Internet to help families of persons with disabilities find information and communicate with other families.

» **The Fathers Network**

http://fathersnetwork.org/

Their mission is to celebrate and support fathers and families raising children with special health care needs and developmental disabilities.

» **Internet Resource for Special Children**

http://www.irsc.org/

Created by Julio Ciamarra, whose son was born with cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and moderate retardation. This site has won numerous awards and is completely accessible using non-graphical browsers and screen-reading software.

» **Kaleidoscope Health Systems Resources**

http://www.kaleidoscopeusa.com/resources.html

Provides information on medical developments, cutting-edge technology, health care, disability issues, and nutrition and lifestyles. A fairly general site covering overall health, wellness, and ability. Has a very good list of links to national health organizations.

» **Mediation Training and Information Center for the ADA**

http://www.keybridge.org

Provides mediation training regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 disputes, adult guardianship, and special education.

» **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill**

http://www.nami.org

Offers detailed information about local and state programs and services with links to other informative sites.

» **National Center for Youth with Disabilities**

http://www.cyfc.umn.edu/Youth/ncyd.html

Information and resource center focusing on adolescents with chronic illnesses and disabilities. Major services include the Resource Center, the Information Center, the Technical Assistance Center, and the Youth News Bureau.

» **National Center to Improve Practice**

http://www.edc.org/FSC/NCIP/

Promotes the use of technology to enhance the educational success of students with sensory, cognitive, physical and social/emotional disabilities. Links to a national network of qualified professionals who share their knowledge, experiences and questions through online discussions and online workshops.

» **National Down Syndrome Society**

http://www.ndss.org

Covers research, education and advocacy issues. Also has an online shopping section and some information on conferences.

» **National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY)**

http://www.nichcy.org
800-695-0285

NICHCY is an information clearinghouse that provides information on disabilities and disability-related issues. Children and youth with disabilities (birth to age 22) are the special focus.

» **National Institutes of Health**

http://www.nih.gov

Type *childhood* into the search files and the site will pull up links to highly specialized research studies, including papers on acute lymphocytic anemia.

» **NECTAS**

http://www.nectas.unc.edu/

Provides an overview to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), information about Part C, Section 619, and information about the federal Interagency Coordinating Council, publications and other resources on the Web related to services for young children with disabilities and their families.

» **Nutrition, Counseling, Education, and Services (NCES)**

http://www.ncescatalog.com

A good source for books, videos, software, and teaching aids on nutrition, exercise, and eating disorders.

» **"Our Kids" – Raising Children with Special Needs**

http://www.our-kids.org

For parents and caregivers of children with developmental disabilities.

» **Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights**

http://www.pacer.org

An organization dedicated to promoting the educational rights of children and young adults with all disabilities. Offers 20 major programs, including parent training, programs for students and schools, and technical assistance to parent centers both regionally and nationally. The site also offers a wide variety of links.

» **Parents Helping Parents**

http://www.php.com

Lists hundreds of special interest bulletin boards.

» **Parent Soup (NDSS)**

http://www.parentsoup.com

Offers some information and resources on Down Syndrome; also gives parents the opportunity to chat with each other. Mostly a general information site on parenting issues.

» **Protection and Advocacy**

http://www.protectionandadvocacy.com

Resource page with general information on protection and advocacy for disabled persons. Provides links to advocacy organizations, training, technical assistance, conferences, and publications.

» **Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Workplace Supports (Virginia Commonwealth University)**

http://www.worksupport.com

Collaborates with business to provide information, resources, services regarding the employment of people with disabilities. Also has a nationally recognized training program.

» **Special Education Resources**

http://seriweb.com/

A collection of Internet-accessible information resources related to special education.

» **United Cerebral Palsy Association**

http://www.ucpa.org/

Affiliates nationwide work for the rights of persons with all disabilities. The site offers information both specifically on cerebral palsy and also on general disability issues. Includes discussion groups and information on advocacy, research, funding, and resources.

» **WellnessWeb**

http://wellweb.com

Addresses treatment options, drug doses, and physician selection issues. Won best site of the year from *Net Magazine* in 1996. Has a specific page on sickle cell anemia.

» **Yes I Can Social Inclusion Program**

http://www.ici.coled.umn.edu/products/curricula.html

A year-long, 20-module curriculum fostering the social inclusion of junior and senior high school students with disabilities in school and the community. Students with and without disabilities gather for weekly classroom instruction and community experiences that increase understanding of the social inclusion needs and challenges of persons with disabilities.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Mentoring Opportunities

Mentoring Opportunities

Mentoring is the process by which a trusted and experienced person takes a personal and direct interest in the development and education of a typically younger or less experienced individual. The list below contains some of the organized programs that offer a variety of formal and informal ways to connect with someone in order to become a mentor or protégé. Keep in mind that less formal means may be available in your community through local parent programs, United Way, YWCAs, YMCAs, family resource centers, etc.

» **Family Mentor Project at Meredith College**

Patsy Pierce
919-760-8568
E-mail: piercep@meredith.edu

Pairs child-development students with mentor families in the community who have children with disabilities. This enables the student to learn more about families and their children with disabilities from the families themselves. Students visit individual homes 4 to 5 times a semester.

» **Family Support Network**

800-852-0042

a) *Parent to Parent programs*

These programs connect parents of children with similar disabilities to provide:

- » an understanding listener and emotional support
- » practical suggestions for coping with day-to-day activities and concerns
- » opportunities to share the satisfactions, challenges, and joys of life with a child who has special needs
- » a model of hope for the future
- » information about community services

b) *Early Connections*

Coordinates a directory of human resources (including parents) to support parent and professional development. Designed to match people who have knowledge about early childhood issues with people in need of expertise, advice, or a helping hand when planning educational opportunities.

c) *N.C. Early Intervention Mentor Program*

Mentoring opportunity to develop the skills of early intervention professionals to serve children and families more effectively. Parents may serve as mentors.

» **Family Voices of North Carolina**

Grace Sisco
704-892-1321
E-mail: ECACNCFV@aol.com
http://www.familyvoices.org/st/NorthCarolina.html

Family Voices of North Carolina is a state chapter of a national grassroots network of families and friends speaking on behalf of children with special health care needs and is a project of the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC). Primarily concerned with health and related services, Family Voices seeks to have family concerns heard during public and private policy discussions. Family Voices also provides information, referral, and personal assistance to families regarding health insurance, accessing needed programs, and consumer protections. Family Voices distributes a quarterly newsletter concerning national and state issues, resources, services, training, and volunteer opportunities.

» **North Carolina Self-Determination Leadership Network (NCSDLN)**

Coordinator: April Gerard
Co-chairs: Tammy Inge and Needham Bryan
336-664-9201
http://www.intrex.net/ncsdln

The mission of the NCSDLN is to create positive change in the current delivery system. Concentrates on the following areas:

- *Freedom* to plan one's life and make choices;
- *Authority* over one's life and resources so that needed and preferred supports can be acquired;
- *Access* to the support needed (both formal and informal or "non-traditional") to live a life in the community that is rich in community associations and contributions;
- *Responsible individual action* involving participation in and contribution to one's community; and
- *Fiscally responsible decisions* to assure that available funds are accounted for and used efficiently to provide supports that are consistent with these principles.

» **Partners in Policy Making**

Easter Seals of North Carolina
919-783-8898
800-662-7119
E-mail: info@nc.easter-seals.org.
http://www.esnc.org/

An innovative model of leadership training for parents and self-advocates. Provides state-of-the-art knowledge about developmental disabilities issues and helps build competencies necessary to become advocates who effectively influence public officials. Educates participants about current issues and familiarizes them with the policymaking and legislative processes at the local, state, and federal levels as a means of achieving a productive partnership between people needing and using services and those in a position to make policy and law. An initiative of the North Carolina Developmental Disabilities Consortium in collaboration with the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities.

» **TEACCH Support Parent Program**

Division TEACCH Administration and Research
CB# 7180
310 Medical School Wing E
UNC–CH
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7180
919-966-2174
E-mail: TEACCH@unc.edu
http://www.teacch.com/

Comprised of parents who serve on the parent advisory committees to the TEACCH centers. Parents who have been trained as support parents have agreed to talk with families of children newly diagnosed with autism about the concerns and issues frequently encountered by families of a child with autism.

» **Young Family Mentoring**

919-788-0801
Help-line: 800- 451-9682 (NC only)
E-mail: mail@naminc.org
http://www.naminc.org

Parents with experience coping with their own children's serious emotional disorders or mental illness volunteer to be mentors who offer understanding and support to other young families whose children have SED or mental illness, helping link them to the services they need. The mentors also teach parents to become more effective advocates for their children. A service of NAMI North Carolina.

Services, Opportunities and Information

Boards, Commissions, Councils, and Committees

The following section is adapted from *Boards, Commissions, Councils, Committees,* with permission of the Developmental Disabilities Training Institute, Division of Continuing Education, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with funding support by the N.C. Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The boards, commissions, councils, and committees in this section have specific functions that affect the ways in which services are offered to persons with disabilities. These responsibilities may include offering recommendations for legislation, making rules that govern services, funding services, or providing services. These boards, councils, commissions, and committees decide important issues that impact the quality of life of citizens of our state. Most times these boards are required to have persons with disabilities or parents on them.

It is very important for the parents, caregivers, and advocates of those with special needs to be familiar with their local government and service organizations. In this way they can best take advantage of the opportunities already available and can influence decisions about future services. In order to do this, they must go through the following steps:

Step 1: Defining the purpose, function, status and responsibilities of the various entities.

Step 2: Determining how to access these entities in the most appropriate and effective manner.

Step 3: Identifying the state and local boards, commissions, councils, and committees that serve the entire state and local area in particular.

Step 4: *Taking action and getting involved!*

Organization of this Section

Steps 1 and 2

The first part of this section covers the first two steps above. It lists the various decision-making bodies and describes their purposes, responsibilities, and functions. Local and regional bodies are listed first; state-level agencies are listed last.

Each entry includes the following information:

- A short description of the type of entity
- The number of members and the way in which they are appointed
- The duties they legally have to perform
- The responsibilities or opportunities they have to assist those with developmental disabilities and their families
- Ways in which citizens can become informed about and involved in the agencies' activities

At the end of each entry is a form for the reader to fill in with the names and numbers of local governing bodies and public officials. We strongly encourage you to take the initiative to do this. Our hope is that this book will be used not only as a resource, but also as an opportunity to include local and individual information.

No list is ever complete, and we could never include all of the resources that might be helpful. Furthermore, within any given geographic area of the state there will be differences in names of boards, how services are delivered, and how and where boards meet. For example, in some counties, the board of county commissioners also functions as the board of health, the board of social services, or the area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services board.

Step 3

In order to identify the state and local boards as listed in Step 3, the reader will need to use the Appendix at the end of this manual, which provides the addresses and phone numbers of regional councils of governments and area services addressing mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse. This information is organized by county in order to help the reader easily locate relevant services.

Step 4

The final step is Number 4, "Taking Action and Getting Involved." The following information only provides a general framework. It's up to the interested citizen to continue to investigate the specific organizations which serve his or her own community. We suggest that this be done by first using the local telephone directory to identify and contact the various agencies of local government. The public library is also a good source of local information. The county manager's office is the best place to obtain information about dates, times, and locations of different board meetings.

Many of the local boards, councils, commissions and area authorities have disability-related committees and advisory councils that provide additional opportunities for involvement. In addition, mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse boards or area authorities may contract out for the mandated services to private or nonprofit organizations. These organizations typically operate with boards, and they need or require family or consumer involvement.

Note on "Open Meetings"

All of the boards, commissions, councils, and committees listed in this section are considered to be public bodies conducting the people's business. Accordingly, these entities come under the Meetings of Public Bodies law. The law of the state of North Carolina states that ". . . it is the public policy of North Carolina that the hearings, deliberations, and actions of these bodies be conducted openly."[1] To be conducted openly means that any person is entitled to attend the meetings of these public bodies. Additionally, the law establishes that notices of regularly scheduled meetings be kept on file with the Secretary of State, the clerk to the board of county commissioners, or the city clerk. Changes in regularly scheduled meetings must also be filed. For meetings not regularly scheduled,

public notice must be made of the date, time, and place of the meetings. Public bodies may hold closed "executive" sessions for specific purposes as defined in the law. These purposes usually involve confidential personnel or client matters, consideration of acquisition of property, or any matters that federal or state law determines is confidential. If a person is unsure whether a public body is unnecessarily using executive sessions, they may refer to the General Statutes or contact the county or city attorney for more detailed information.

1. *North Carolina General Statutes*, Chapter 143, State Departments, Article 33C, Meetings of Public Bodies.

Section A:
Local and Regional Boards, Councils, and Committees

Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services Boards

Brief Description

An area authority is a local political public agency, either a department of county services in a single county or closely connected to county governments with multiple counties, with the power to provide services, contract for services, and coordinate services for consumers with mental illness, consumers with developmental disabilities, and consumers with substance abuse problems. The area board exercises the powers of the area authority.

Meetings and Presentations to the Board:

Area boards meet at least six times per year. Most area boards meet monthly. The meetings may be held at the area office, in a county office building, a restaurant, or another facility. Areas covering more than one county may rotate meeting locations throughout the area during a year. Notices of meetings are published in newspapers and other news media.

Citizens should contact the area director's office or the board chairman to request to be put on the agenda. At many board meetings there is an agenda item titled "other business" or "public comment," where a citizen can speak without notifying the board beforehand. Time limits for speaking are at the discretion of the board.

Many area boards have committees or advisory councils. A citizen may be invited to speak to a committee instead of presenting before the full board.

The board may hold a yearly public hearing for adoption of the budget. These meetings will be publicized beforehand.

Membership

Number of members: Fifteen (maximum of 25).

Length of term: Four years (term of service on an area board for a county commissioner runs concurrently with term as a county commissioner).

How appointed:

- Single county area — the board of county commissioners appoints the board members.
- Multi-county area — each board of county commissioners appoints one commissioner as a board member. The county commissioner members appoint the other members.

Composition of membership:

- At least one county commissioner from each county in the area (in a single-county area the board of commissioners may instead appoint any resident of the county).
- At least two licensed physicians.
- At least one professional representative from the fields of either psychology, social work, nursing, or religion.
- At least one individual each representing the interests of mental illness, developmental disabilities, alcoholism, and drug abuse.
- At least one representative from local hospitals or area planning organizations.
- At least one licensed attorney.

Duties

- Engaging in comprehensive planning, budgeting, implementing, and monitoring of community-based mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services.
- Providing services to consumers of the area.
- Determining the needs of the area consumers and coordinating with the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources for the provision of services to consumers through area and state facilities.
- Developing plans and budgets for the area.
- Assuring that services meet the rules of the Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and the Secretary of Human Resources.
- Appointing an area director.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities:

An area authority may provide direct services or may contract for services from other programs in the area. Although the services listed below may *not* be provided by an area program, the area program should be able to access these services for consumers from other providers.

- Diagnostic services
- Evaluation services
- Psychological services
- Psychiatric services
- Counseling services
- Consultation to other agencies, organizations and groups
- Education to consumers, families, schools, businesses, churches, industries, civic groups
- Planning for an individual's service needs
- Coordination of an individual's service needs
- Referral and follow-up
- Respite services
- Transportation
- Inpatient psychiatric services
- Child development services

- Employment services
- Vocational services
- Adult basic education
- Community living skills training
- Social-developmental services
- Forensic screening and evaluation
- Foster care
- Prevention services
- Day treatment
- Residential services
- Early intervention services
- Before-school services
- After-school services
- Summer programs

For a listing of Area Programs across the state, see the Appendix, pages 89.

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

Area Program: _____

Address: _____

Area Director: _____

Phone: _____

Area Board Chairman: _____

Phone: _____

Director of Developmental Disabilities Services: _____

Phone: _____

Single Portal Coordinator: _____

Phone: _____

Early Intervention Director: _____

Phone: _____

Community Alternative Program (CAP) Coordinator: _____

Phone: _____

Notes: _____

City Council

Brief Description:

A city or town is a municipal corporation. The city council exercises the powers, functions, rights, privileges, and immunities of the corporation.

Meetings and Presentations to the Council:

City council meetings may be held once per week, twice per month, or once per month. The meetings are generally held in the city hall or the municipal building. Notices of meetings are published in newspapers and other news media.

Citizens should contact the mayor's office or the city clerk's office to request to be put on the agenda. At many city council meetings there is an agenda item titled "other business" where a citizen can speak without notifying the council beforehand. Time limits for speaking are flexible and are at the discretion of the council.

Membership

Number of members: Varies. Usually seven or eight. The mayor is a member of the city council.
Length of term: 2 or 4 years.
How appointed: Elected, either at large from total city population or by districts in some large cities.
Composition of membership: Must be resident of the city.

Duties

- Supervising and controlling governmental matters in the city or town.
- Adopting ordinances or resolutions.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities:

- Funding
- Accessibility
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Zoning

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

City Office:

Address:

Mayor:

Phone:

City Council Chairman:

Phone:

City Clerk:

Phone:

Community College Boards of Trustees

Brief Description:

A body corporate. A community college board of trustees exercise the rights and privileges necessary for the management and administration of the community college.

Meetings and Presentations to the Board:

A board of trustees meets at least quarterly on the campus. Notices of meetings are published in newspapers and posted in all campus buildings. Citizens should contact the president's office or board chairman to request to be put on the agenda. Time limits for speaking are set by the board of trustees and depend on the agenda.

Membership

Number of members: Thirteen (minimum).
Length of term: Four years.
How appointed:

- Four trustees elected by the board(s) of education of the public school administrative unit(s) located in the administrative area of the community college.
- Four trustees elected by the board(s) of county commissioners in which the institution is located. (The county commissioners of the county in which the community college has established a satellite campus may elect an additional two members if the board of trustees agrees.)

» Four trustees appointed by the Governor.
» The president of the student government or the chairman of the executive board of the student body is an ex officio nonvoting member.

Composition of membership:
All trustees must be residents of the geographical area of the institution except for the president of the student body.

Duties

» Electing a president or chief administrative officer of the institution.
» Electing or employment of all other personnel of the institution upon nomination by the president or chief administrative officer (may be delegated to the president or chief administrative officer).
» Purchasing any land, easement, or right-of-way which is necessary for the operation of the institution.
» Applying the standards and requirements for admission and graduation of students and other standards established by the State Board of Community Colleges.
» Receiving and accepting donations, gifts, and bequests and apply them or invest any of them and apply the proceeds for purposes and upon the terms which the donor may prescribe and which are consistent with the provision of the N.C. General Statutes and the regulations of the State Board of Community Colleges.
» Contracting with other public or private organizations or institutions to provide all or part of the instructional services for the institution.
» Performing other acts and doing other things that may be necessary or proper for the exercise of the foregoing specific powers.
» Encouraging the establishment of private, nonprofit corporations to support the institution.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

» Post-secondary education
» Adult basic education
» Compensatory education (for persons with mental retardation)
» Vocational education
» High school equivalency diploma

For contact information for community colleges across the state, see the Appendix, pages 107.

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

Community College:

Address:

President:

Phone:

Board Chairman:

Phone:

Notes:

Boards of County Commissioners

Brief Description

A county, as a body politic and corporate, is a legal person capable of holding and managing property and possessed of powers conferred on it by law. It exercises its powers and discharges its responsibilities through its board of commissioners.

Meetings and Presentations to the Board

The board of county commissioners is required by law to meet at least once each month. The law requires that the meeting be held on the first Monday of the month unless the board of commissioners decides by resolution to set the meeting on a different day. Most boards of commissioners meet twice per month at the courthouse. The time of day the meetings are held varies from county to county. Most boards set hours that accommodate the interests of individuals who work. The date and hour for the regular meetings must be established by resolution at the first meeting in December after taking office.

Citizens should contact the county manager or the clerk to the board of commissioners to request time to speak before the commissioners or to request that an item be added to the agenda. Most boards set aside time to hear from citizens at each meeting. Some counties require advance notice to have items added to the agenda. Time limits for speaking vary from county to county.

In addition to the regular meetings, commissioners may hold special meeting at the call of the Chair or by request of the majority of the members. Boards may also schedule work sessions and committee meetings to deal with specific issues. Notices of such meeting will be posted in advance.

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Membership

Number of members: Usually five, although some have only three and others may have seven or more.

Length of term: Two or four years.

How appointed: Elected in partisan elections held in November of even-numbered years. Vacancies are filled by appointment of the remaining members and must be of the same political party as the member being replaced. Commissioners may be elected either at large or by district.

Duties

- Setting the fiscal policy of the county while abiding by the laws and policies of the state and federal government.
- Adopting ordinances.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities:

- Appropriating revenues to a licensed facility for persons with mental retardation
- Appropriating revenues to a sheltered workshop or other nonprofit organization offering work or training activities to persons with physical or mental disabilities
- Appropriating revenues to an orthopedic hospital
- Allocating revenues to a training center offering education, treatment, rehabilitation, or developmental programs to persons with physical or mental disabilities
- Appropriating advisory boards, committees, councils and agencies to study, interpret and develop community support and cooperation
- Developing for human services a single portal of entry, a consolidated case management system, and a common database
- Provide for and regulate the public health
- Provide mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse programs
- Provide social services programs
- Accessibility
- Transportation
- Zoning

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

County Office:

Address:

County Manager:

Phone:

Board Chairman:

Phone:

County Clerk:

Phone:

Notes:

Local Boards of Education

Brief Description

A county board of education is a corporate body. The county board of education exercises the general control and supervision of all matters pertaining to the public schools in the local school administrative unit.

Meetings and Presentations to the Board

Frequency of meetings: By law, a board of education must meet the first Monday of January, April, July, and October of each year. The board may elect to hold regular monthly meetings or another schedule. For instance, in more populous counties a board may meet twice a month.

Methods of getting the agenda: Speaking at board of education meetings is primarily limited to agenda items. A citizen may contact the board of education or superintendent's office to request to speak on an agenda item. Many boards publicize a summary of the agenda in the newspapers prior to a regular meeting or a public hearing. If a citizen wishes to speak to the board about an issue that is not on the agenda, he or she may contact the superintendent or board chairman to discuss having that item added to an upcoming agenda.

Length of time allotted for citizens to speak to the board: Speaking time will usually be limited, most often to 5 minutes or less. Check with your local school board.

Location of meetings: Meetings will usually be held in a county office building or the board of education office building.

Membership

Number of members: Minimum of five members, usually more than five.

Length of term: Four years.

How appointed:

- County board of education: elected (on a nonpartisan basis).
- City administrative unit: either appointed by the county board of education or elected.

Composition of membership: All members must reside within the boundary lines of the local school administrative unit.

Duties

- Providing an adequate school system.
- Exercising certain judicial functions and participating in certain suits and actions.
- Dividing local school administrative units into attendance areas.
- Regulating extracurricular activities.
- Fixing time of opening and closing of schools, and determining the length of the school day, the school month and the school term.
- Regulating fees, charges and solicitations.
- Accepting and administering federal or private funds.
- Sponsoring or conducting educational research.
- Assuring accurate attendance records.
- Assuring appropriate class size.
- Implementing the Basic Education Program.
- Electing a superintendent; prescribing duties of superintendent; supplying with an office, equipment and clerical assistance; and removing a superintendent, when necessary.
- Employing assistant superintendent and supervisors.
- Making rules concerning the conduct and duties of personnel.
- Approving the assignment of duties to an assistant principal.
- Providing for training of teachers.
- Providing for prompt payment of all salaries.
- Providing school food services.
- Purchasing equipment and supplies.
- Purchasing of activity buses.
- Securing liability insurance.
- Entering lease or purchase contracts for automobiles.
- Authorizing the observance of a moment of silence.
- Appointing advisory councils.
- Determining the hours of employment for teacher aides.
- Refering all students who drop out of the public schools to appropriate services.

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Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

All children with special needs are entitled to a free appropriate public education. Children with special needs include all children from age 5 through age 21 who, because of permanent or temporary mental, physical or emotional disabilities, need special education, are unable to have all their needs met in a regular class without special education or related services, or are unable to be adequately educated in the public schools. This includes children:

- with mental retardation
- with epilepsy
- with learning disabilities
- with cerebral palsy
- with serious emotional disturbances
- with orthopedic impairments
- who are academically gifted
- with multiple handicaps
- who are pregnant
- with hearing impairments
- with speech impairments
- with autism
- who have other health impairments
- who are blind or have visual impairments

Responsibilities and Potentials

- Multi-disciplinary diagnosis and evaluation
- Individualized education program for each child with special needs
- Free appropriate special education and related services
- Annual census of children with special needs
- Education in the least restrictive appropriate setting
- Interlocal cooperation undertaking with any state department, agency, or division having responsibility for the education, treatment or habilitation of children with special needs
- Establishing special education and related programs for children with special needs aged birth through 4 and 19 through 21
- Contracting with private service providers
- School social work services
- Classroom instruction
- Physical education instruction
- Home instruction
- Instruction in hospitals and institutions
- Speech pathology
- Audiology
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Transportation
- Psychological services
- Recreation
- Early identification

- Assessment of disabilities in children
- Counseling services
- Medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes
- Parent counseling and training

For a listing of your local education agency's Exceptional Children's Programs, look in the white pages of the phone book under city or county schools.

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

School Board Office:

Address:

Superintendent:

Phone:

Board Chairman:

Phone:

Notes:

County Boards of Health or District Boards of Health

Brief Description

A county health department is a department of the county in which it is located. A county board of health is the policy-making, rule-making and adjudicating body for a county health department.

A district health department including more than one county may be formed in lieu of county health departments upon agreement of the county boards of commissioners and local boards of health. A district board of health is the policy-making, rule-making and adjudicating body for a district health department.

Meetings and Presentations to the Board

A board of health meets at least quarterly. Generally, boards will meet monthly in the health department building or another county facility. Some boards may meet in local restaurants. Notices of meetings (date, time, location) are advertised in local newspapers, and, if an agenda item is related to specific interest groups, the interest groups are notified.

Citizens should phone or write the health department director or board chairman to request to speak on an agenda item. Time limits will be set by the board and may vary.

If a citizen wishes to speak to the board about an issue that is not on the agenda, he or she may contact the director or board chairman to discuss having that item added to an upcoming agenda.

Membership: County Board of Health

Number of members: Eleven.
Length of term: Three years. No member may serve more than three consecutive terms unless the member is the only person residing in the county who represents one of the professions listed below.
How appointed: By the county board of commissioners.
Composition of membership: All members must be residents of the county.
One each:

- Licensed physician
- Licensed dentist
- County commissioner
- Licensed optometrist
- Registered nurse
- Licensed veterinarian
- Licensed pharmacist
- Professional engineer

Three each:

- Representatives of the general public.

Membership: District Board of Health

Number of members: Fifteen (maximum of eighteen).
Length of term: Three years. No member may serve more than three consecutive terms unless the member is the only person residing in the district who represents one of the professions listed below.
How appointed: The board of commissioners of each county in the district appoints one county commissioner. The county commissioner members appoint the other members of the board.
Composition of membership: All members must be residents of the district.
One each:

- Licensed physician
- Licensed dentist
- Licensed veterinarian
- Licensed optometrist
- Registered nurse
- Licensed pharmacist
- Professional engineer

Three each:

- Representatives of the general public.

Duties for Both

- Adopting and enforcing rules necessary to protect and promote the public health.
- Appointing a local health director.

- Imposing a fee for services except where the imposition of a fee is prohibited by statute or where an employee of the local health department is performing the services as an agent of the state.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities and mental health needs

- Immunizations
- Maternal and child health program (preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic and habilitative)
- Nutrition program (screening, assessment, counseling, treatment, referral, follow-up and direct provision of food)
- Dental health program (all ages)
- Health assessment (kindergarten children)
- Perinatal health care (education, identification of high-risk, prenatal, delivery and newborn health care services)
- Child service coordination
- Environmental health

For your local or district Health Department, look in the white pages of the phone book under the county listings.

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

Health Department: _____

Address: _____

Director: _____

Phone: _____

Board Chairman: _____

Phone: _____

Notes: _____

_____

_____

County Boards of Social Services

Brief Description

A county department of social services is a department of the county within which it is located. A county board of social services establishes policies for the county department of social services.

Meetings and Presentations to the Board

The board meets at least monthly. Meetings are held in the social services building or another county facility. Notices may be posted in the county courthouse. Citizens should phone or write the social services director or board chairman to request to speak to the board. Any reasonable amount of time for a presentation will be accommodated.

If a citizen wishes to speak to the board about an issue that is not on the agenda, he or she may contact the director or board chairman to discuss having that item added to an upcoming agenda.

Membership

Number of members: Three or five.
Length of term: Three years. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.
How appointed:
Three-member board:

- County board of commissioners appoints one board member who may be a commissioner or a citizen.
- Social Services Commission appoints one board member.
- The two appointed members select the third board member.

Five-member board:

- County board of commissioners appoints two board members who may be commissioners or citizens.
- Social Services Commission appoints two board members.
- The four appointed members select the fifth board member.

Composition of membership: Each member must be a resident of the county.

Duties

- Selecting the county director of social services.
- Advising county and municipal authorities in developing policies and plans to improve the social conditions of the community.
- Consulting with the director of social services about problems relating to his office and assisting him in planning budgets for the county department of social services.
- Transmiting or presenting the budgets of the county department of social services for public assistance, social services, and administration to the board of county commissioners.

- Performing other duties and responsibilities assigned by the General Assembly, the Department of Human Resources, the Social Services Commission, or the board of county commissioners.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities and mental health needs

- Financial assistance
- Protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation (children)
- Protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation (adults)
- Foster care
- Food stamps
- Medical financial assistance
- Monitor facilities for adults with developmental disabilities
- Monitor facilities for persons who are aged

For your local Board of Social Services, look in the white pages of the telephone book under county listings.

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

Social Services Department: _____

Address: _____

Director: _____

Phone: _____

Board Chairman: _____

Phone: _____

Notes: _____

_____

_____

Head Start Council

Brief Description

The purpose of the Head Start Council is to involve parents in the governance and decision-making process for the local program that affects their children and families.

Membership

Number of members: Determined by the board of directors and policy council of the local Head Start program.

Length of term: Annually elected for no more than three years.

How appointed: Parents are elected by the center committees made up of parents in the program.

Composition of membership:

- 51% of council is composed of parent representatives who have children in the program.
- 49% of council is community representation

Duties

- Making choices about their local program involving governance issues and decision-making processes.

Special Note:

Parents receive training that enables them to be effective board members. Additional training is available in areas such as budgeting, nutrition, behavior management, health needs, etc.

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

Local Head Start Program Address:

Phone:

Director:

Notes:

Human Rights Committees

Brief Description

Human rights committees have been established at each state facility operated by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services. Additionally, human (or client) rights committees are mandated for all area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse programs and all Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Mental Retardation. These committees are to provide an additional safeguard for protecting the human, civil, legal and treatment rights of clients who have disabilities and are served in state and local facilities.

Meetings and Presentations to Committees

State facility human rights committees usually meet monthly at the facility. Human rights committees for local programs will have varying schedules. Contact the area director (see Appendix, page 89) or the director of the specific service to find out when and where the committee meets.

Consumers, family members, and guardians wishing to address an issue to a human rights committee should contact the chairman to request time on the agenda.

Since these meetings fall under the state's Meetings of Public Bodies law, any citizen may attend. At times, committees may adjourn to a closed (executive) session to discuss specific issues that must be kept confidential as required by the state's Right to Confidentiality law.

Membership

Number of members: Varies.

How appointed: State facilities human rights committee members are appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources. Local human rights committee members are appointed by the governing boards of the facilities.

Composition of membership: State facilities human rights committee membership is established by law and includes persons who are knowledgeable about the particular disability area, representative of the region served by the facility, consumers of services, family members, and representative of consumer and advocacy groups. No staff employee of a state facility may be a voting member of the facility's human rights committee.

Local human rights committee membership will generally follow the same guidelines as state facilities. Members will be required to live in the area which the program serves.

Duties

- Reviewing facility compliance with laws regarding clients' rights (North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 122C, Article 3) and reviewing facility compliance with human and client rights rules.
- Reviewing and assessing the efficiency of existing and proposed methods and procedures for protecting the rights of clients.
- Serving as an independent review body to hear and make recommendations concerning alleged violations of the rights of individuals and groups.
- Reviewing programs and services that deal with the legal and human rights of clients.
- Reviewing cases of alleged abuse, neglect or exploitation or failure to provide services.
- Reviewing cases regarding the use of seclusion, physical or mechanical restraint, intrusive or aversive procedures, electroconvulsive therapy, medication prescribed above recommended dosages, or any procedures carried out against the will of the client.
- Reviewing complaints, grievances or other client rights issues of concern.

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Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities:

- Protection of human rights
- Protection of civil rights
- Protection of legal rights
- Protection of treatment rights
- Protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation (children)
- Protection from abuse, neglect, exploitation (adults)

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

Program:

Chairman of Human Rights Committee:

Phone:

Notes:

Regional Councils of Governments

Brief Description

Any two or more units of local government (a county, city, or consolidated city-county) may create a regional council of governments by adopting identical concurrent resolutions. The purpose of a regional council of governments is the coordination of governmental functions best undertaken on a regional level. A regional council of governments does not become a political or governmental subdivision of the state, but may take on some of the attributes and functions of a political subdivision.

Meetings and Presentations to the Council

Councils usually meet quarterly. Dates, times, locations, and agendas may be sent to the region's television and radio stations for broadcast to the public. Citizens should contact the director or the chairman of the council to request time on the agenda. Time limits for speaking will be determined by the council.

Public hearings are held at least once per year. These meetings are publicized in advance.

Membership

Number of members: Varies.

How appointed: The charter of a regional council of governments establishes the number of delegates to represent the member governments, fixes their terms of office, and provides methods for filling vacancies. Council members are elected officials from the representative local governments.

Duties

The charter of a regional council of governments may confer on the regional council any of the following powers:

- Applying for, accepting, receiving, and dispensing funds and grants made available to it by the State of North Carolina or any agency thereof, the United States of America, or any agency thereof, any unit of local government (whether or not a member of the council), or any private or civic agency;
- Employing personnel;
- Contracting with consultants;
- Contracting with the State of North Carolina, any other state, the United States of America, or any agency thereof, for services;
- Studying regional governmental problems, including matters affecting health, safety, welfare, education, recreation, economic conditions, regional planning, and regional development;
- Promoting cooperative arrangements and coordinated action among its member governments;
- Making recommendations for review and action to its member governments and other public agencies which perform functions within the region in which its member governments are located; and
- Exercising any other powers that are exercised or capable of being exercised by its member governments and that are desirable for dealing with problems of mutual concern which are delegated to it from the member governments.

Each regional council shall prepare and distribute to its member governments and to the public an annual report of its activities including a financial statement.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Funding
- Transportation
- Recommend actions affecting health
- Recommend actions affecting safety
- Recommend actions affecting welfare
- Recommend actions affecting education
- Recommend actions affecting recreation

For a listing of the regional council of governments in your area, see the Appendix, page 89.

Local Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers

Regional Council:

Address:

Director:

Phone:

Council Chairman:

Phone:

Notes:

Section B:
State Boards, Commissions, and Councils

Child Day-Care Commission

Brief Description

A commission with the power and duty to adopt rules to be followed in the licensing and operation of child care facilities and child care homes.

Meetings and Presentations to the Commission

The commission holds regular meetings quarterly and at other times at the call of the chairman or upon written request of at least six members. The regular meetings are held in Raleigh at 319 Chapanoke Road. The Commission maintains a mailing list to send notices of meetings. Meetings are also announced in various newspapers around the state.

Regular meetings are open to the public, and the chairman may ask for comments from the audience. If a citizen wishes to speak about a specific issue before the Commission, he or she should contact the Division of Child Development or the chairman to request to speak.

Public hearings are held, usually yearly, for rules changes. These are held in Raleigh; the specific location is announced. At these hearings, only the rule changes on the agenda will be addressed. Time limits for speaking are not strict, but usually 5 to 10 minutes is granted. If a citizen has a specific rule change he or she would like the Commission to address, he or she should contact the chairman.

Membership

Number of members: Fifteen.
Length of term: Two years, with a limit of four consecutive terms.
How appointed:

- Seven members appointed by the Governor.
- Eight members appointed by the General Assembly, four upon recommendation of the President of the Senate and four upon recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Composition of membership:

- Four members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President of the Senate, and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be members of the public who are not employed in, or providing, child care and who have no financial interest in a child care facility or home.
- Two of the public members appointed by the Governor, one public member appointed by the President of the Senate, and one public member ap-

pointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be parents of children receiving child care services. Of the remaining two public members appointed by the Governor, one shall be a currently licensed pediatrician.

- The three other members appointed by the Governor shall be child care providers:
  - one affiliated with a for-profit child care facility
  - one affiliated with a for-profit child care home
  - one affiliated with a nonprofit child care facility
- Two members appointed by the President of the Senate shall be child care providers:
  - one affiliated with a for-profit child care facility or home
  - one affiliated with a nonprofit child care facility or home
- Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be child care providers:
  - one affiliated with a for-profit child care facility or home
  - one affiliated with a nonprofit child care facility or home
- No members may be employees of the state.

Duties

- Adopting rules for the issuance of licenses to any care facility.
- Registering child care homes and adopting rules and standards.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Establishing of rules for the operation of child care facilities
- Health of children
- Safety of children
- Education of children

Contact Address and Phone Number

Melinda Rathbone or Regina Johnson
Division of Child Development
319 Chapanoke Road, Room 300
2201 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2201
919-662-4499
800-859-0829 (in-state calls only)
Fax: 919-662-4568 or 919-662-4569
http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dcd/
Notes:

Children and Youth Parent Advisory Council

Brief Description

The council provides parental expertise to the decision-making process of the Children and Youth Branch of the Department of Health and Human Services, with emphasis on assuring quality services for children with special needs and their families.

Meetings and Presentations to the Council

The council holds quarterly meetings.

Membership

Number of members: No maximum.
Length of term: No limit.
How appointed: No formal process.
Composition of membership:

- Parents of children with special health care needs
- Service providers
- Coordinators of local Family Support Network programs
- Other interested parties

Duties

To participate with the Children and Youth Branch of the Department of Health and Human Services, paying particular attention to health issues of consumers with developmental disabilities.

Contact Address and Phone Number

Division of Women's and Children's Health
Children and Youth Branch
1916 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1916
919-733-2815 or 919-733-3816
Fax: 919-715-3807
http://wch.dhhs.state.nc.us/cay.htm
Notes:

Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services

Brief Description

A commission with the power and duty to adopt, amend and repeal rules to be followed in the conduct of state and local mental health, developmental disabilities, and alcohol and drug abuse programs. This includes rules related to education, prevention, intervention, treatment, rehabilitation and other related services. The rules shall be designed to promote the amelioration or elimination of the mental health, developmental disabilities, or alcohol and drug abuse problems of the citizens of the State of North Carolina.

Meetings and Presentations to the Commission:

The Commission meets quarterly the second week of February, May, August, and November. Meetings are approximately one and one-half days long and are usually held in Raleigh, but may be held in other sections of the state. Meetings are published in the North Carolina Register, and the Commission maintains a mailing list of interested persons.

The first morning of the meeting is a public hearing that starts at 10:00 a.m. and lasts until lunch. In the afternoon the committees of the Commission meet. There are six committees, three for the disability areas (Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse), and three other committees (Rules, Planning, and Standards). Each Commission member is a member of one of the disability area committees and each Commission member is a member of one of the other committees. The second morning is the regular meeting of the Commission.

Citizens may contact the staff director or the chairman to request to speak before the Commission. Speaking is done during the public hearing portion of the meeting and is usually limited to 5 to 10 minutes.

Membership

Number of members: Twenty-five.
Length of term: Two years.
How appointed:

- Four members appointed by the General Assembly, two by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and two by the President of the Senate.
- Twenty-one members appointed by the Governor. One from each congressional district in the state and ten at-large members.

Composition of membership: The members appointed by the General Assembly shall have concern for the problems of mental illness, developmental disabilities, alcohol and drug abuse. Of the twenty-one members appointed by the Governor, at least one of the below shall be a licensed physician and at least one of the below shall be a licensed attorney. Furthermore:

- three shall have a special interest in mental health,
- three shall have a special interest in mental retardation,
- three shall have a special interest in developmental disabilities other than mental retardation,
- three shall have a special interest in alcohol abuse and alcoholism, and
- three shall have a special interest in drug abuse.

Each group of three shall be made up of one member who is a consumer representative; one other who is a representative of a local or state citizen organization or association; and one other who is a professional in the field. The remaining six members shall be appointed from the general public, other citizen groups, area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse authorities, or from other related agencies.

Duties

- Adopting rules regarding the admission of persons to services, including the designation of regions, treatment, and professional care of individuals admitted to a facility for persons with mental illness, developmental disabilities, or substance abuse problems.
- Operating education, prevention, intervention, treatment, rehabilitation and other related services provided by area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse authorities.
- Conducting hearings and appeals of area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse authorities.
- Fulfilling the requirements of the federal government for grants-in-aid for mental health, developmental disabilities, alcohol or drug abuse program.
- Adopting rules for the licensing of facilities for persons with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse problems.
- Advising the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources regarding the need for, provision and coordination of education, prevention, intervention, treatment, rehabilitation and other related services in the areas of mental illness and mental health, developmental disabilities, alcohol abuse, and drug abuse.
- Reviewing and advising the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources regarding all state plans required by federal or state law and recommending to the Secretary any changes it thinks necessary in those plans.
- Adopting rules relating to the registration and control of the manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of controlled substances.
- Adopting rules to establish the professional requirements for staff of licensed facilities for persons with mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance abuse problems.
- Adopting rules to implement Article 3 of Chapter 122C (Client's Rights) of the General Statutes.
- Adopting rules specifying procedures for waiver of rules adopted by the Commission.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Determine the need for and the provision and coordination of education, prevention, intervention, treatment, rehabilitation and other related services
- Establish rules to provide for the appropriate admission, treatment, and professional care of individuals in state and community programs
- Establish rules to provide for the protection of the rights of individuals in state community programs

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Contact Address and Phone Number

Staff Director
Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services
3001 Mail Service Center:
Raleigh, NC 27699-3001
919-733-7011
Fax: 919-733-1221
http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas/commission/
Notes:

Commission for the Blind

Brief Description

A commission with the power and duty to adopt rules and regulations to be followed in the conduct of the state's rehabilitative programs for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Meetings and Presentations to the Commission

The Commission meets at least once in each quarter and may hold special meetings at any time and place within the state at the call of the chairman or upon the written request of at least five members. Meetings are held in Raleigh. Notices are sent to Commission members and consumer and advocacy group members.

Contact the Division of Services for the Blind or the chairman of the Commission to request to speak before the Commission. Presentations are not limited to agenda items. Occasionally, regular meetings are opened for comment from the audience.

Membership

Number of members: Eleven.
Length of term: Three years.
How appointed: Appointed by the Governor.
Composition of membership:

- A majority of the members must be blind or visually impaired.
- No physician, no optometrist, no optician, no oculist, nor any other person who receives services or funds regulated by the Commission can serve on the Commission for the Blind.

Duties:

- Adopting rules and regulations that may be necessary and desirable for the programs administered by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- Establishing standards and adopting rules and regulations for aid to persons who are blind and needy.
- Adopting rules and regulations as may be required by the federal government for grants-in-aid for rehabilitative purposes for the blind.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Establishment of rules, regulations, and standards for programs for persons who are visually impaired
- Establishment of rules, regulations, and standards for aid to the persons who are visually impaired and in need
- Establishment of rules and regulations for grants-in-aid

Contact Address and Phone Number

Staff Director
N.C. Division of Services for the Blind
2601 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2601
919-733-9822
Fax: 919-733-9769
Notes:

Council for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing

Brief Description

A council in the Department of Health and Human Services to study problems of persons who are deaf or hard of hearing and to advise and make recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and to the superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction.

Meetings and Presentations to the Council

The Council meets quarterly and at other times at the call of the chairman. Usually the meetings are in March, June, September, and December in Raleigh. Notices concerning meeting dates and locations are sent to persons who have contacted the Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing.

Contact the Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing to request to speak before the Council. Presentations are not limited to agenda items. Usually, time is set aside for the audience to make comments at meetings.

Membership

Number of members: Twenty-three total members.
Length of term: Four years.
How appointed: Fifteen appointed by the Governor; six appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services; one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; one appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

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Composition of membership:

Fifteen appointed by the Governor

- Three members who are persons who are deaf.
- Three members who are persons who are hard of hearing.
- One educator who trains deaf education teachers..
- One licensed audiologist.
- Three parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing, with each parent from a different region of the three North Carolina schools for the deaf regions:
  - one parent of a child in a residential school;
  - one parent of a child in a pre-school satellite program; and
  - one parent of a child in a mainstream education program.
- One member recommended by the president of the North Carolina Association of the Deaf.
- One member recommended by the president of the North Carolina Pediatric Society.
- One member recommended by the president of the North Carolina Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.
- One member nominated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Six appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services

- One from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.
- One from the Division of Aging.
- One from the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services.
- One from the Division of Social Services.
- One from the North Carolina Chapter of SHHH (Self Help for the Hard of Hearing).
- One from SPEAK (Statewide Parents' Education and Advocacy for Kids).

Duties

- Making recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources regarding improvement of human services for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing.
- Studying ways to promote public understanding of the problems of persons who are deaf and hard of hearing and considering the need for new state programs concerning deafness.
- Advising the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources in the preparation of a plan describing the quality, extent and scope of services provided or to be provided, to deaf and hard of hearing persons in this state.
- Studying any state programs that provide educational services for deaf and hard of hearing persons and advising the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources and the Superintendent of Public Instruction concerning coordination of these programs to prevent duplication of services.
- Advising and making recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services upon any matter as requested by the Secretary.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Recommending changes to improve services for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing

Contact Address and Phone Number

Dee Miller
Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
319 Chapanoke Road, Suite 108
2301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2301
919-773-2963
E-mail: dee.miller@ncmail.net
Notes:

Council on Developmental Disabilities

Brief Description

A gubernatorially appointed council that (1) works with organizations and groups around the state to promote self-determination, full citizenship and inclusion for over 120,000 North Carolinians with developmental disabilities and their families; and (2) advises the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and all other state entities receiving federal funds for developmental disabilities services pursuant to Public Law 104-183, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1996.

Meetings and Presentations to the Council

Meetings are quarterly, usually in Raleigh. An annual meeting is held in either the eastern or western portion of the state. Hearings are conducted at least once every three years, and individuals interested in promoting funding for a specific activity or project may contact the Council's office at any time.

Membership

Number of members: Thirty-two.
Length of term: Four years.
How appointed: Appointed by the Governor
Composition of membership:

- Over half of the members shall be persons with developmental disabilities or family members of persons with developmental disabilities.
- Other members include professionals from major state agencies that serve persons with developmental disabilities, legislators, and community representatives.

The Council has an executive director and staff to support the Council's activities.

Duties

As defined in PL 104-183:

- advocating for systemic change, capacity building, and advocacy issues;
- examining priority activity areas;
- developing and implementing state plan;
- demonstrating new approaches to enhance independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion into the community of individuals with developmental disabilities;
- conducting outreach activities;
- conducting training activities;
- collaborating and coordinating with other agencies;
- conducting activities that eliminate barriers, enhance systems design and enhance citizen participation to address identified issues;
- informing policy makers; and
- monitoring state plan activities.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- To show that persons with developmental disabilities can work in their community for competitive wages, when given the proper supports
- To encourage persons with developmental disabilities to speak up for themselves and become involved in policy making that affects them
- To ensure that children with developmental disabilities grow up at home in a family and go to school with other children in their community
- To help persons with developmental disabilities and their families gain control over how funds and other resources are used to meet their individual needs
- To increase awareness and educate policy makers and the public about persons with developmental disabilities
- To make sure that the state and federal resources are used in customer-responsive, cost-effective ways
- To help persons with developmental disabilities get a home of their own and support needed to live there

Contact Address and Phone Number

Director
North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities
1001 Navaho, Suite GL-103
Raleigh, NC 27609
Voice/TDD: 919-850-2833
Voice/TDD: 800-357-6916
Fax: 919-850-2895
http://www.nc-ddc.org
Notes:

Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities

Brief Description

A council created to provide for a statewide protection and advocacy program for persons with disabilities. Additionally, the council advises the Governor, the state legislature and principal state departments on issues of special concern to disabled persons in the state.

Meetings and Presentations to the Council

The Council holds quarterly meetings on the fourth Friday in January, April and October in Raleigh.

The Council has four committees that meet for 2 to 3 hours in the morning. The committees are:

- Protection and Advocacy for the Mentally Ill
- Employment Promotion
- Education, Human Resources, and Human Rights; and
- Accessibility

Citizens may request to make a presentation to one of the committees by contacting the Council office approximately one month prior to a scheduled meeting. The time limit for presentations is about one-half hour.

The full Council meets in the afternoon and the committees bring recommendations to the Council from their morning meetings.

Membership

Number of members: Twenty-four.
Length of term: Four years.
How appointed:

- Sixteen members are appointed by the Governor;
- One member is appointed from the North Carolina Senate by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
- One member is appointed from the North Carolina House of Representatives by the Speaker of the House
- Six non-voting *ex officio* members from state government agencies

Composition of membership:

- Of the sixteen members appointed by the Governor, at least eight shall be disabled persons or family members of disabled persons as follows:
  - Two representatives of persons with mental illness;
  - Two representatives of persons with developmental disabilities;
  - Two representatives of persons with mental retardation; and
  - One representative of persons with sensory impairments.
- Of the sixteen members appointed by the Governor, at least one shall come from each congressional district in the state.
- The six *ex officio* members shall be:
  - Commissioner of Labor
  - Commissioner of Insurance
  - Secretary of the Department of Human Resources

- Chairman of the Employment Security Commission
- Exceptional Children's Director of the Department of Public Instruction
- Chairman of the Protection and Advocacy for the Mentally Ill Advisory Committee of the Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities

Duties

- Providing for a statewide protection and advocacy program for persons with disabilities.
- Pursuing legal, administrative, or other appropriate remedies to insure the protection of the rights of all developmentally, mentally, physically, emotionally and otherwise disabled persons who are receiving treatment, services, or habilitation from any state, local, or area program.
- Reviewing and recommending changes in all laws, rules, regulations, programs and policies of this state or any agency or subdivision to insure the rights of persons with disabilities are safe-guarded.
- Investigating complaints concerning the violation of the rights of persons with disabilities and taking appropriate action.
- Contracting with public agencies or private nonprofit corporations to fulfill any of the functions and duties provided for.
- Aiding and assisting local advocacy programs and the advocacy programs in mental retardation centers, psychiatric hospitals, training schools, and alcohol and drug abuse treatment centers.
- Performing other functions necessary to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Advising and assisting the Department of Administration on the continuing program to promote the employment of persons with disabilities by creating statewide interest in the rehabilitation and employment of the handicapped, and by obtaining and maintaining cooperation with all public and private groups and individuals in this field.
- Working in close cooperation with the President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities and with state and federal agencies having responsibilities for employment and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
- Promoting and encouraging the holding of appropriate ceremonies throughout the state during "National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month."
- Initiating public awareness projects and making recommendations to the Governor concerning broad policies pertaining to rehabilitation for persons with disabilities.
- Advising the Secretary of Administration upon any matter the Secretary may refer to the Council.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Case advocacy for persons with disabilities
- Class advocacy for persons with disabilities
- Investigating complaints regarding human and civil rights, delivery of services, physical/architectural accessibility, and employment of persons with disabilities

- Recommending changes to improve services
- Recommending changes to provide protection for civil rights
- Providing a "hotline" for information about the Social Security Disability Program or the Supplemental Security Income Program

Contact Address and Phone Number

Allen H. Perry, Director
Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities
2113 Cameron Street, Suite 218
1314 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1314
919-733-9250
800-821-6922
E-mail: gacpd@ncmail.net
http://www.doa.state.nc.us/gacpd/gacpd.htm
Notes:

Interagency Coordinating Council (NC–ICC)

Brief Description

The North Carolina Interagency Coordinating Council (NC–ICC) for children with disabilities ages birth to five and their families advocates for the development and implementation of a comprehensive and coordinated system of health, developmental, and educational services.

It advises the state Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources in carrying out their early intervention services. The council also advises the Department of Public Instruction in their activities related to the condition of special education services for pre-schoolers.

Meetings and Presentations to the Council

The full council holds quarterly meetings. Additional administrative continuity is provided by the Executive Committee of the NC–ICC, which meets in the months between full council meetings.

The Council currently has seven standing committees which do much of the work of the Council. The committees are:

- Local Interagency Coordinating Councils Committee
- Public Awareness and Legislative Committee
- Children and Families Committee
- Personnel Development Committee
- Transition Committee
- Executive Committee
- Cultural Diversity Committee

In addition to these committees, the Council often forms task forces to study urgent needs and issues.

Membership

Number of members: Twenty-six.
Length of term: Two years, with a limit of two consecutive terms.
How appointed: All members appointed by the Governor.
Composition of membership:

- Twenty percent parents
- Twenty percent early intervention personnel
- One Head Start representative
- One representative from the Child Care Regulation Agency
- Two representatives from the N.C. Senate
- Two representatives from the N.C. House of Representatives
- One representative from the N.C. Department of Insurance
- One representative of higher education in personnel preparation

Duties

- Maintain a coordinated, interagency system for children ages birth to 5 with developmental disabilities and their families.
- Identify sources of fiscal and other support for the early intervention system.
- Develop policies related to the early intervention system.
- Prepare applications for available federal funds.
- Resolve interagency disputes.
- Promote interagency agreements.
- Assist in planning, coordination, and evaluation of early intervention and preschool services.
- Advise and assist the lead agencies regarding the transition of toddlers with disabilities to preschool and other appropriate services.
- Strengthen service integration for both infants and toddlers and at-risk infants and their families, regardless of eligibility status.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Identify ways in which services for early intervention can be improved
- Take steps to ensure cooperation between agencies
- Investigate complaints and disagreements between agencies
- Conform to the standards established by IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)

Contact Address and Phone Number

Karen Chester, Executive Director
NC-ICC
319 Chapanoke Road
2201 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2201
919-662-4543
Fax: 919-662-4568
E-mail: karen.chester@ncmail.net
Notes:

Social Services Commission

Brief Description

A commission with the power and duty to adopt rules and regulations to be followed in the conduct of North Carolina's social service programs.

Meetings and Presentations to the Commissions

The Commission meets at least once each quarter and may hold special meetings at any time and place within the state at the call of the chairman or upon the written request of at least four members. Generally, the regular meetings are held in Raleigh on the second Wednesday of March, June, September, and December.

Dates and places for meetings are widely publicized throughout the state. Interested citizens should contact the Special Assistant to the Director, Division of Social Services, to request to speak at a Commission meeting. Presentations are limited to agenda items. The chairman limits the time of presentations.

If a citizen has a specific issue that he or she would like to bring before the Commission, they should contact the Special Assistant to the Director and request the issue be put on an upcoming agenda.

If a citizen wants a rule appealed, amended, or adopted, he or she should contact the Special Assistant to the Director for the specific procedures that apply to rule making.

Membership

Number of members: Thirteen (additional members appointed if new congressional districts are added).
Length of term: Four years.
How appointed: Appointed by the Governor.
Composition of membership: One member from each congressional district.

Duties

- Adopting rules and regulations that may be necessary and desirable for the social service programs administered by the Department of Human Resources.
- Establishing standards and adopting rules and regulations for the programs of public assistance, with the exception of the program of medical assistance.
- Achieving maximum cooperation with other agencies of the state and with agencies of other states and of the federal government in rendering services to strengthen and maintain family life and to help recipients of public assistance obtain self-support and self-care.
- Establishing procedures for the placement and supervision of dependent and delinquent children and payment of necessary costs of foster home care for needy and homeless children.
- Establishing procedures for the payment of grants-in-aid and other state funds to private child-caring institutions.
- Establishing procedures for social services programs established by federal and state legislation.

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- Establishing procedures for implementation of Title XX of the Social Security Act in the following areas:
  - eligibility;
  - standards;
  - maximum rates of payment;
  - fees for services to be paid by recipients;
  - designation of certain mandated services which shall be provided in each county of the state; and
  - Title XX services for the blind, after consultation with the Commission for the Blind.
- Establishing and adopting standards
  - for the inspection and licensing of maternity homes;
  - for the inspection and licensing of domiciliary homes for aged or disabled persons;
  - for the inspection and licensing of child-care institutions;
  - for the inspection and operation of jails or local confinement facilities; and
  - for the regulation and licensing of charitable organizations, professional fund-raising counsel and professional solicitors
- Authorizing investigations of social problems, with authority to subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, and compel the production of necessary documents.
- Ratifying reciprocal agreements with agencies in other states.
- Adopting such rules and regulations as may be required by the federal government of grants-in-aid for social services purposes which may be made available for the state by the federal government.
- Establishing
  - a fee schedule for the payment of the costs of necessary day care in licensed facilities and registered plans for minor children of needy families
  - a fee schedule for the payment by recipients for services which are established in accordance with Title XX of the Social Security Act and implementing regulations
  - the payment of an administrative fee not to exceed two hundred dollars ($200.00) to be paid by public or nonprofit agencies that employ students under the Plan Assuring College Education (PACE) program
  - a fee schedule for child support enforcement services

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Establishment of rules, regulations, and standards for social services programs.
- Establishment of rules, regulations, and standards for placement and supervision of dependent and delinquent children who have disabilities.
- Establishment of rules, regulations, and standards for eligibility for services.
- Establishment of standards for licensing of maternity homes, domiciliary homes, child-care institutions, and jails or local confinement facilities.
- Establishment of fees for Title XX services.

Contact Address and Phone Number

Special Assistant to the Director
Social Services Commission
Division of Social Services
325 N. Salisbury Street
2401 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2401
919-733-3055
800-662-7030
Fax: 919-733-9386
E-mail: Pheon.Beal@ncmail.net
Notes:

State Board of Education

Brief Description

A board vested by the North Carolina Constitution with authority for the general supervision and administration of the free public school system.

Meetings and Presentations to the Board

Regular meetings are held monthly on the first Wednesday and Thursday of the month in the seventh floor board room of the Education Building in Raleigh, unless otherwise announced.

Generally, citizens do not speak at Board meetings; however, at times, the Board will accept comments from citizens. Interested citizens should contact the chairman of the Board, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, or the executive director of the State Board of Education to request to speak at a Board meeting.

If a citizen has a specific issue that he or she would like to bring before the Board, he or she should contact the executive director of the State Board of Education. The Board may consider including the issue if it is something they are currently discussing or if it has statewide impact.

Public hearings on issues of statewide impact are held, usually in Raleigh, but occasionally in other locations around the state.

Membership

Number of members: Thirteen voting members (and four nonvoting members).
Length of term: Eight years.
How appointed:

- Eleven members are appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the General Assembly in joint session.
- Lieutenant Governor, *ex officio*
- State Treasurer, *ex officio*

Composition of membership: No public school employee paid from state or local funds or his or her spouse, and no employee of the Department of Public Instruction or his or her spouse may serve as an appointed member of the Board.

Of the eleven members appointed by the Governor:

- One member shall be appointed from each of the eight educational districts.
- Three members shall be appointed at large.

Non-voting members:

- There are four non-voting members in addition to the thirteen voting members. These are two student advisors (a junior and a senior) and two Teachers of the Year (current and past year's).
- The Superintendent of Public Instruction serves as the executive secretary of the Board.

Duties

- Apportioning and equalizing over the state all state school funds and all federal funds granted to the state for assistance to educational programs administered within or sponsored by the public school system of the state.
- Adjusting allocations for inaccurate apportionment due to inaccurate attendance records.
- Altering boundaries of city school administrative units.
- Approving agreements for the consolidation and merger of school administrative units located in the same county.
- Making provisions for sick leave and substitute teachers.
- Certifying and regulating the grade and salary of teachers and other school employees.
- Adopting and supplying textbooks.
- Adopting rules requiring all local boards of education to implement the Basic Education Program.
- Formulating rules and regulations for the enforcement of the compulsory attendance law.
- Managing and operating a system of insurance for public school property.
- Making provisions for special programs or projects of a cultural and fine arts nature for the enrichment and strengthening of educational opportunities for the children of the state.
- Sponsoring or conducting education research.
- Providing for sports medicine and emergency paramedical program.
- Purchasing liability insurance for Board members.
- Providing personnel information to local boards relating to certification, evaluation and qualification.
- Developing non-certified personnel position evaluation descriptions.
- Adopting salary schedules for: school finance officer, office support personnel, property and cost clerks, aides, maintenance supervisors, custodial personnel, transportation personnel, and other support personnel.
- Providing for school transportation programs.
- Developing and implementing a uniform education reporting system, which shall include standards and procedures for collecting fiscal and personnel information.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Funding
- Adopting of textbooks
- Consolidating of school systems
- Providing free appropriate social education and related services

Contact Address and Phone Number

Jane Worsham, Executive Director to the State Board of Education
Mike Ward, State Superintendent NCDPI
Phil Kirk, Chair
NC State Board of Education
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
301 N. Wilmington St.
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-807-3300
Fax: 919-715-0764
http://www.ncpublicschools.org/state_board/

Study Commission on Children with Special Needs

Brief Description

A commission established to study services provided for children with special needs, compare services with those of other states, and make legislative recommendations to strengthen the role of the state in meeting its responsibilities to children with special needs. This study commission must be renewed by the legislature every two years in order to continue. It meets only when the legislature is adjourned.

Membership

Number of members: Eighteen.
Length of term: For the two-year duration of the study commission's work.
How appointed:

- Seven members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, four of whom shall be members of the Senate, and three of whom shall be public members.
- Seven members appointed by the Speaker of the House, four of whom shall be members of the House of Representatives, and three of whom shall be public members.
- Four members appointed by the Governor.

Duties

- Pursue an in-depth study of the services provided by other states for children with special needs.
- Collect and evaluate for comprehensiveness existing legislation in North Carolina which is relevant to programs for children with special needs, as well as pertinent reports, studies and findings from other states and national bodies.
- Collect and evaluate for comprehensiveness the reports and recommendations of the various agencies, councils, commissions, committees, and associations existing in North Carolina whose primary or partial duties are to make recommendations designed to affect services for children with special needs.

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- Monitor on a continuing basis the progress of the state as it moves toward meeting the service requirements for children with special needs.

In addition, the Commission shall study issues related to meeting the educational needs of children with special needs, particularly the alternative funding methods and the effects of the twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) cap on funding for the education of children with special needs.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

- Recommend legislation to strengthen the roles of the state in meeting its responsibilities to children with special needs

Contact Address and Phone Number

Shirley Iorio
Research Division
545 Legislative Office Building
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925
919-733-2578
E-mail: shirleyi@ncleg.net

Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office

Brief Description

A council created to work on behalf of the children and youth of North Carolina to identify unmet needs, review existing programs and provide recommendations and information to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the general public.

Meetings and Presentations to the Council

The Council meets at least quarterly and upon the call of the chairman or upon written request of at least nine members.

Citizens should contact the council chairman or the executive director to determine dates, times and locations of meetings and to request to speak before the Council.

Membership

Number of members: Seventeen.
Length of term: Four years.
How appointed:

- Thirteen members appointed by the Governor
- Two members from the North Carolina Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
- Two members from the North Carolina House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House

Composition of membership:

- Of the thirteen members appointed by the Governor, at least one each shall come from each congressional district in the state.

- Of the thirteen members appointed by the Governor, nine shall be adult citizens who have an interest in and knowledge of children and youth, persons who work with children, or representatives of organizations concerned with problems of children and youth.
- Of the thirteen members appointed by the Governor, four shall be youths under the age of 18 (two boys, two girls).

Duties

- Acting as an advocate for children and youth within state and local governments, and with private agencies serving children and youth.
- Providing assistance in the development and coordination of child advocacy systems at the regional and local levels within the state.
- Performing a continuing review of existing programs of state government for children and youth and their families.
- Identifying needs of children and youth and their families that are not currently being met and recommending new programs or improvement of existing programs in cooperation with state, local and private agencies.
- Reviewing any new programs affecting children and youth proposed by any state agency and recommending changes to avoid duplication of services, to promote better planning, or otherwise to make more effective use of available resources.
- Meeting at least annually with the Governor and presenting a written report concerning the health and well-being of North Carolina's children and the effectiveness of current programs and the need for new programs for children and youth.
- Providing information to the general public and state, local and private agencies serving children and youth and their families concerning the activities and findings of the Council.
- Performing other advisory functions assigned by the Secretary of Administration or a legislative committee.

Responsibilities and potentials for meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities:

- Case advocacy for children and youth
- Class advocacy for children and youth
- Funding programs for children who have been physically or sexually abused
- Monitoring state government programs for children and youth
- Recommending new programs for children and youth
- Recommending improvements in existing programs for children and youth

Contact Address and Phone Number

Pam Deardorff, Executive Director
Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office
217 West Jones Street
1319 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1319
919-733-9296
E-mail: pam.deardorff@ncmail.net
http://www.doa.state.nc.us/doa/yaio.htm
Notes:

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More Opportunities to Serve

Note: The previous section details many opportunities to serve that operate under the auspices of the state, regional, or local governments. The following list provides the names of some other organizations which are open to families, professionals, and caregivers.

Organizations

» **The Arc of North Carolina**

800-662-8706
http://www.arcnc.org/

Provides advocacy, education and support to families and professional regarding people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities and the issues that affect their lives. There are currently 44 chapters across the state and each one operates as a separate nonprofit agency providing for its own choice and level of advocacy, services, and training opportunities.

» **Infant-Toddler Initiatives Committee (ITI)**

Duncan Munn
919-733-3654
http://www.chtop.com/Infant.htm

This is the main advisory group for the different agencies that make up the infant-toddler program. It serves as a place where parents and professionals can get together and talk about things that affect how services are provided. The meetings occur once every three months and usually take place in the Raleigh area.

» **North Carolina Child Advocacy Institute (NCCAI)**

919-834-6623 ext. 229
Fax: 919-829-7299
E-mail: nccai@intrex.net
http://www.ncchild.org

The NCCAI pursues three interrelated areas of activity:

1. Public **action,** which involves educating people about children's issues, training child advocates, and leading individuals and groups to act on behalf of children.
2. Public **policy,** which involves improving state laws and policies and funding and developing coalitions that continue to shape public policy.
3. Public **information,** which involves establishing the "Knowledge Exchange," an information and referral resource website that provides up-to-date facts and figures about children and youth.

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» **Family Support Network of North Carolina (FSN–NC)**

919-966-2841
800-852-0042
Fax: 919-966-2916
E-mail: cdr@med.unc.edu
http://www.fsnnc.org

The mission of the Family Support Network of North Carolina (FSN–NC) is to enhance the lives of North Carolina's children and youth with, or at risk for, developing special needs by providing support and information to the families who care for them, and to encourage family-professional collaboration in the design and delivery of services for these families. The Board of Advisors of FSN–NC is an unincorporated association created to serve in an advisory capacity to FSN–NC. The purpose of the Board is to advise and assist FSN–NC in accomplishing its overall mission, which includes:

- Assisting FSN–NC in promoting the interests, articulating the priorities, and advancing the causes of FSN–NC to the citizens of North Carolina.
- Helping keep the administration of FSN–NC informed of public attitudes, opinions, and concerns regarding families and children with developmental disabilities, chronic illnesses, behavior disorders, or children born prematurely, children at risk, or children who have other special needs.
- Assisting in coordinating FSN–NC's work with other public and private agencies that serve families
- Assisting in identifying possible funding sources
- Assisting in evaluating the programs and services of FSN–NC

Appendix:
Additional Program Information

Area MH/DD/SAS Programs and Regional Councils of Governments

These programs typically cover several counties. They are listed here by county in order to help parents locate the program that serves their area.

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Alamance	Alamance-Caswell Area MH/DD/SA Authority 319 N. Graham-Hopedale Rd, Suite A Burlington, NC 27215 336-513-4200	Piedmont Triad COG Koger Center, Wilmington Bldg 2216 West Meadowview Road, Suite 201 Greensboro, NC 27407-3480 336-294-4950
Alexander	Foothills Area MH/DD/SA Program 306 S. King Street Morganton, NC 28655 828-438-6230	Western Piedmont COG 736 4th Street SW Hickory, NC 28602-3401 828-322-9191
Alleghany	New River Behavioral Healthcare 895 State Farm Road, Suite 508 Boone, NC 28607-4996 828-264-9007	Region D COG P.O. Box 1820 155 Furman Road Boone, NC 28607 828-265-5434
Anson	Sandhills Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 9 West End, NC 27376-0009 910-673-9111	Centralina COG 1300 Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Ashe	New River Behavioral Healthcare 895 State Farm Road, Suite 508 Boone, NC 28607-4996 828-264-9007	Region D COG P.O. Box 1820 155 Furman Road Boone, NC 28607 828-265-5434
Avery	New River Behavioral Healthcare 895 State Farm Road, Suite 508 Boone, NC 28607-4996 828-264-9007	Region D COG P.O. Box 1820 155 Furman Road Boone, NC 28607 828-265-5434
Beaufort	Tideland Mental Health Center 1308 Highland Drive Washington, NC 27889-3494 252-946-8061	Mid-East Commission 310 W. Main St P.O. Box 1787 Washington, NC 27889 252-946-8043
Bertie	Roanoke-Chowan Human Services Center Route 3, Box 22-A Ahoskie, NC 27910-9320 252-332-4137	Mid-East Commission 310 W. Main St. P.O. Box 1787 Washington, NC 27889 252-946-8043

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Bladen	Southeastern Regional Mental Health Center 207 West 29th Street Lumberton, NC 28358-2901 910-738-5261	Lumber River COG 4721 Fayetteville Road Lumberton, NC 28359 910-618-5533
Brunswick	Southeastern Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 1230 Wilmington, NC 28402-1230 910-796-3130	Cape Fear COG 1480 Harbour Drive Wilmington, NC 28401 910-395-4553
Buncombe	Blue Ridge Center for MH/DD/SA Services 356 Biltmore Avenue Asheville, NC 28801 828-258-3500	Land of the Sky Regional COG 25 Heritage Drive Asheville, NC 28806 828-251-6622
Burke	Foothills Area MH/DD/SA Program 306 S. King Street Morganton, NC 28655 828-438-6230	Western Piedmont COG 736 4th Street SW Hickory, NC 28602-3401 828-322-9191
Cabarrus	Piedmont Area MH/DD/SA Services 245 LePhillip Court Concord, NC 28025 704-721-7000	Centralina COG 1300 Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Caldwell	Foothills Area MH/DD/SA Program 306 S. King Street Morganton, NC 28655 828-438-6230	Western Piedmont COG 736 4th Street SW Hickory, NC 28602-3401 828-322-9191
Camden	Albemarle Mental Health Center and DD/SA Services P.O. Box 2367 Elizabeth City, NC 27907 252-335-0431	Albemarle Commission P.O. Box 646 512 S. Church Street Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Carteret	Neuse Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 1636 New Bern, NC 28563-1636 252-636-1510	Eastern Carolina COG P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717 252-638-3185
Caswell	Alamance-Caswell Area MH/DD/SA Authority 319 N. Graham-Hopedale Rd, Suite A Burlington, NC 27215 336-513-4200	Piedmont Triad COG Koger Center, Wilmington Bldg 2216 West Meadowview Road, Suite 201 Greensboro, NC 27407-3480 336-294-4950
Catawba	Mental Health Services of Catawba County 3050 11th Avenue Drive SE Hickory, NC 28602 828-326-5900	Western Piedmont COG 736 4th Street SW Hickory, NC 28602 828-322-9191
Chatham	Orange-Person-Chatham MH/DD/SA Authority 101 E. Weaver Street, Suite 300 Carrboro, NC 27510 919-913-4000	Triangle J COG P.O. Box 12276 Durham, NC 27703 919-549-0551

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Cherokee	Smoky Mountain Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 127 Sylva, NC 28779 828-586-5501	Southwestern North Carolina Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Drawer 850 Bryson City, NC 28713 828-488-9211
Chowan	Albemarle Mental Health Center and DD/SA Services P.O. Box 326 Elizabeth City, NC 27907 252-335-0431	Albemarle Commission P.O. Box 646 512 S. Church Street Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Clay	Smoky Mountain Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 127 Sylva, NC 28779 828-586-5501	Southwestern North Carolina Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Drawer 850 Bryson City, NC 28713 828-488-9211
Cleveland	Pathways 2505 Court Drive Gastonia, NC 28054 704-867-2361	Isothermal Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Box 841 Rutherfordton, NC 28139 828-287-2281
Columbus	Southeastern Regional Mental Health Center 207 West 29th Street Lumberton, NC 28358-2901 910-738-5261	Cape Fear COG 1480 Harbour Drive Wilmington, NC 28401 910-395-4553
Craven	Neuse Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 1636 New Bern, NC 28563-1636 252-636-1510	Eastern Carolina COG P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717 252-638-3185
Cumberland	Cumberland County Mental Health Center P.O. Box 3069 Fayetteville, NC 28302 910-323-0601	Mid Carolina COG P.O. Drawer 1510 Fayetteville, NC 28302 910-323-4191
Currituck	Albemarle Mental Health Center and DD/SA Services P.O. Box 326 Elizabeth City, NC 27907 252-335-0431	Albemarle Commission P.O. Box 646 512 S. Church Street Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Dare	Albemarle Mental Health Center and DD/SA Services P.O. Box 326 Elizabeth City, NC 27907 252-335-0431	Albemarle Commission P.O. Box 646 512 S. Church Street Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Davidson	Davidson County Area Program for MH/DD/SA Services 211 W. Colonial Drive 2216 Thomasville, NC 27360 336-474-2700	Piedmont Triad COG Koger Center, Wilmington Bldg. West Meadowview Road, Suite 201 Greensboro, NC 27407-3480 336-294-4950

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Davie	CenterPoint Human Services 725 Highland Avenue Winston-Salem, NC 28101 336-725-7777 336-761-2111	Northwest Piedmont COG 400 W. Fourth Street, Suite 400 Winston-Salem,NC 27101-2805
Duplin	Duplin-Sampson Area MH/DD/SA Services 117 Beasley Street P.O. Box 599 Kenansville NC 28349 910-296-1851	Eastern Carolina Council P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717 252-638-3185
Durham	The Durham Center 200 N. Mangum Street Durham, NC 27701 919-560-7100	Triangle J COG P.O. Box 12276 Durham, NC 27703 919-549-0551
Edgecombe	Edgecombe-Nash MH/DD/SA Services 500 Nash Medical Arts Mall Rocky Mount NC 27804 252-937-8141	Upper Coastal Plain COG P.O. Drawer 2748 Rocky Mount, NC 27802 252-446-0411
Forsyth	CenterPoint Human Services 725 Highland Avenue Winston-Salem, NC 27101 336-725-7777	Northwest Piedmont COG 400 W. Fourth Street, Suite 400 Winston-Salem, NC 27101 336-761-2111
Franklin	Area MH/DD/SA Program of Vance, Warren, Granville and Franklin Counties 134 South Garnett Street Henderson, NC 27536 252-430-1330	Kerr-Tar Regional COG P.O. Box 709 Henderson, NC 27536 252-436-2040
Gaston	Pathways 2505 Court Drive Gastonia, NC 28054 704-867-2361	Centralina COG 1300 Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Gates	Roanoke-Chowan Human Services Center Route 3, Box 22-A Ahoskie, NC 27910-9320 252-332-4137	Albemarle Commission 512 S. Church Street P.O. Box 646 Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Graham	Smoky Mountain Center for Southwestern MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 127 Sylva, NC 28779 828-586-5501	North Carolina Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Drawer 850 Bryson City, NC 28713 828-488-9211
Granville	Area MH/DD/SA Program of Vance, Warren, Granville and Franklin Counties 134 South Garnett Street Henderson, NC 27536 252-430-1330	Kerr-Tar Regional COG P.O. Box 709 Henderson, NC 27536 252-436-2040

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Greene	Wilson-Greene Area MH/DD/SA Services 1709 South Tarboro Street P.O. Box 3756 Wilson, NC 27895-3756 252-399-8021	Eastern Carolina COG P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717 252-638-3185
Guilford	Guilford Center 232 N. Edgeworth St., Greensboro, NC 27401-2221 336-373-4981	Piedmont Triad COG 4th Floor Koger Center, Wilmington Bldg. 2216 West Meadowview Road, Suite 201 Greensboro, NC 27407-3480 336-294-4950
Halifax	Riverstone Counseling and Personal Development 210 Smith Church Road P.O. Box 1199 Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870-1199 252-537-6174	Upper Coastal Plain COG P.O. Drawer 2748 Rocky Mount, NC 27802 252-446-0411
Harnett	Lee-Harnett Area MH/DD/SA Authority 130 Carbonton Road Sanford, NC 27330-4009 919-774-6521	Mid Carolina COG P.O. Drawer 1510 Fayetteville, NC 28302 910-323-4191
Haywood	Smoky Mountain Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 127 P.O. Sylva, NC 28779 828-586-5501	Southwestern North Carolina Planning and Economic Development Commission Drawer 850 Bryson City, NC 28713 828-488-9211
Henderson	Trend Area MH/DD/SA Authority 800 Fleming Street, #A Hendersonville, NC 28791 828-692-5741	Land of the Sky Regional COG 25 Heritage Drive Asheville, NC 28806 828-251-6622
Hertford	Roanoke-Chowan Human Services Center Route 3, Box 22-A Ahoskie, NC 27910-9320 252-332-4137	Mid-East Commission P.O. Box 1787 310 W. Main St Washington, NC 27889 252-946-8043
Hoke	Sandhillls Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 9 4721 West End, NC 27376-0009 910-673-9111	Lumber River COG Fayetteville Road Lumberton, NC 28359 910-618-5533
Hyde	Tideland Mental Health Center 1308 Highland Drive Washington, NC 27889-3494 252-946-8061	Albemarle Commission 512 S. Church Street P.O. Box 646 Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Iredell	Crossroads Behavioral Health Care 200 Business Park Drive Elkin, NC 28621 336-835-1000	Centralina COG 1300 Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Jackson	Smoky Mountain Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 127 Sylva, NC 28779 828-586-5501	Southwestern North Carolina Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Drawer 850 Bryson City, NC 28713 828-488-9211
Johnston	Johnston County Area MH/DD/SA Authority Highway 301 North P.O. Box 411 Smithfield, NC 27577-0411 919-989-5500	Triangle J COG P.O. Box 12276 Durham, NC 27703 919-549-0551
Jones	Neuse Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 1636 New Bern, NC 28563-1636 252-636-1510	Eastern Carolina COG P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717 252-638-3185
Lee	Lee-Harnett Area MH/DD/SA Authority 130 Carbonton Road Sanford, NC 27330-4009 919-774-6521	Triangle J COG P.O. Box 12276 Durham, NC 27703 919-549-0551
Lenoir	Lenoir County MH/DD/SA Center 2901 North Heritage Street Kinston, NC 28501-8813 252-527-7086	Eastern Carolina COG P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717 252-638-3185
Lincoln	Pathways 2505 Court Drive 1300 Gastonia, NC 28054 704-867-2361	Centralina COG Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Macon	Smoky Mountain Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 127 Sylva, NC 28779 828-586-5501	Southwestern North Carolina Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Drawer 850 Bryson City, NC 28713 828-488-9211
Madison	Blue Ridge Center for MH/DD/SA Services 356 Biltmore Avenue Asheville, NC 28801 828-258-3500	Land of the Sky Regional COG 25 Heritage Drive Asheville, NC 28806 828-251-6622
Martin	Tideland Mental Health Center 1308 Highland Drive Washington, NC 27889-3494 252-946-8061	Mid-East Commission P.O. Box 1787 310 W. Main St. Washington, NC 27889 252-946-8043

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
McDowell	Foothills Area MH/DD/SA Program 306 S. King Street Morganton, NC 28655 828-438-6230	Isothermal Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Box 841 Rutherfordton, NC 28139 828-287-2281
Mecklenburg	Mecklenburg County Health Mental Health and Community Services 420 Billingsley Road Charlotte, NC 28211-1098 704-336-2023	Centralina COG 1300 Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Mitchell	Blue Ridge Center for MH/DD/SA Services 356 Biltmore Avenue Asheville, NC 28801 828-258-3500	Region D COG P.O. Box 1820 155 Furman Road Boone, NC 28607 828-265-5434
Montgomery	Sandhillls Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 9 West End, NC 27376-0009 910-673-9111	Piedmont Triad COG Koger Center, Wilmington Bldg 2216 West Meadowview Road, Suite 201 Greensboro, NC 27407-3480 336-294-4950
Moore	Sandhillls Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 9 West End, NC 27376-0009 910-673-9111	Triangle J COG P.O. Box 12276 Durham, NC 27703 919-549-0551
Nash	Edgecombe-Nash Area MH/DD/SA Services 500 Nash Medical Arts Mall Rocky Mount NC 27804 252-937-8141	Upper Coastal Plain COG P.O. Drawer 2748 Rocky Mount, NC 27802 252-446-0411
New Hanover	Southeastern Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 1230 Wilmington, NC 28402-1230 910-796-3130	Cape Fear COG 1480 Harbour Drive Wilmington, NC 28401 910-395-4553
Northampton	Roanoke-Chowan Human Services Center Route 3, Box 22-A Ahoskie, NC 27910-9320 252-332-4137	Upper Coastal Plain COG P.O. Drawer 2748 Rocky Mount, NC 27802 252-446-0411
Onslow	Onslow County Behavioral Healthcare 301 Johnson Blvd. Jacksonville, NC 28540 910-938-3546	Eastern Carolina COG P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717 252-638-3185
Orange	Orange-Person-Chatham MH/DD/SA Authority 101 E. Weaver St, Suite 300 Carrboro, NC 27510 919-913-4000	Triangle J COG P.O. Box 12276 Durham, NC 27703 919-549-0551

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Pamlico	Neuse Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 1636 New Bern, NC 28563-1636 252-636-1510 252-638-3185	Eastern Carolina COG P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717
Pasquotank	Albemarle Mental Health Center and DD/SA Services P.O. Box 326 Elizabeth City, NC 27907 252-335-0431	Albemarle Commission P.O. Box 646 512 S. Church Street Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Pender	Southeastern Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 1230 Wilmington, NC 28402-1230 910-796-3130	Cape Fear COG 1480 Harbour Drive Wilmington, NC 28401 910-395-4553
Perquimans	Albemarle Mental Health Center and DD/SA Services P.O. Box 326 Elizabeth City, NC 27907 252-335-0431	Albemarle Commission P.O. Box 646 512 S. Church Street Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Person	Orange-Person-Chatham MH/DD/SA Authority 101 E. Weaver St., Suite 300 Carrboro, NC 27510 919-913-4000	Kerr-Tar Regional COG 510 Dabney Drive P.O. Box 7709 Henderson, NC 27536 252-436-2040
Pitt	Pitt County MH/DD/SA Center 203 Government Circle Greenville, NC 27834-7706 252-413-1600	Mid-East Commission P.O. Box 1787 310 W. Main St Washington, NC 27889 252-946-8043
Polk	Rutherford-Polk Area MH/DD/SA Authority 271 Callahan Koon Road Spindale, NC 28160-2296 828-287-6110	Isothermal Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Box 841 Rutherfordton, NC 28139 828-287-2281
Randolph	Randolph County MH/DD/SA Program 110 W. Walker Avenue Asheboro, NC 27203-5798 336-633-7200	Piedmont Triad COG Koger Center, Wilmington Bldg, Suite 201 2216 West Meadowview Road Greensboro, NC 27407-3480 336-294-4950
Richmond	Sandhillls Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 9 West End, NC 27376-0009 910-673-9111	Lumber River COG 4721 Fayetteville Road Lumberton, NC 28359 910-618-5533
Robeson	Southeastern Regional Mental Health Center 207 West 29th Street Lumberton, NC 28358-2901 910-738-5261	Lumber River COG 4721 Fayetteville Road Lumberton, NC 28359 910-618-5533

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Rockingham	Rockingham County Area MH/DD/SA Program P.O. Box 355 Wentworth, NC 27375-0355 336-342-8316	Piedmont Triad COG Koger Center, Wilmington Bldg, Suite 201 2216 West Meadowview Road Greensboro, NC 27407-3480 336-294-4950
Rowan	Piedmont Area MH/DD/SA Services 245 LePhillip Court Concord, NC 28025 704-721-7000	Centralina COG 1300 Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Rutherford	Rutherford-Polk Area MH/DD/SA Authority 271 Callahan Koon Road Spindale, NC 28160-2296 828-287-6110	Isothermal Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Box 841 Rutherfordton, NC 28139 828-287-2281
Sampson	Duplin-Sampson Area MH/DD/SA Services 117 Beasley Street P.O. Box 599 Kenansville, NC 28349-0599 910-296-1851	Mid Carolina COG P.O. Drawer 1510 Fayetteville, NC 28302 910-323-4191
Scotland	Southeastern Regional Mental Health Center 207 West 29th Street Lumberton, NC 28358-2901 910-738-5261	Lumber River COG 4721 Fayetteville Road Lumberton, NC 28359 910-618-5533
Stanly	Piedmont Area MH/DD/SA Services 245 LePhillip Court Concord, NC 28025 704-721-7000	Centralina COG 1300 Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Stokes	CenterPoint Human Services 725 North Highland Avenue Winston-Salem, NC 27101 336-725-7777	Northwest Piedmont COG 400 W. Fourth Street, Suite 400 Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2805 336-761-2111
Surry	Crossroads Behavioral Health Care 200 Business Park Drive Elkin, NC 28621 336-835-1000	Northwest Piedmont COG 400 W. Fourth Street, Suite 400 Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2805 336-761-2111
Swain	Smoky Mountain Center for MH/DD/SA Services P.O. Box 127 Sylva, NC 28779 828-586-5501	Southwestern North Carolina Planning and Economic Development Commission P.O. Drawer 850 Bryson City, NC 28713 828-488-9211
Transylvania	Trend Area MH/DD/SA Authority 800 Fleming Street, #A Hendersonville, NC 28791 828-692-5741	Land of the Sky Regional COG 25 Heritage Drive Asheville, NC 28806 828-251-6622

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Tyrrell	Tideland Mental Health Center 1308 Highland Drive Washington, NC 27889-3494 252-946-8061	Albemarle Commission 512 S. Church Street P.O. Box 646 Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Union	Piedmont Area MH/DD/SA Services 245 LePhillip Court Concord, NC 28025 704-721-7000	Centralina COG 1300 Baxter Street, #450 Charlotte, NC 28204-3053 704-372-2416
Vance	Area MH/DD/SA Program of Vance, Warren, Granville and Franklin Counties 134 S. Garnett Street Henderson, NC 27536 252-430-1330	Kerr-Tar Regional COG P.O. Box 709 Henderson, NC 27536 252-436-2040
Wake	Wake County Human Services P.O. Box 46833 Raleigh, NC 27620-6833 919-212-7199	Triangle J COG P.O. Box 12276 Durham, NC 27703 919-549-0551
Warren	Area MH/DD/SA Program of Vance, Warren, Granville and Franklin Counties 134 Garnett Street Henderson, NC 27536 252-430-1330	Kerr-Tar Regional COG P.O. Box 709 Henderson, NC 27536 252-436-2040
Washington	Tideland Mental Health Center 1308 Highland Drive Washington, NC 27889-3494 252-946-8061	Albemarle Commission 512 S. Church Street P.O. Box 646 Hertford, NC 27944 252-426-5753
Watauga	New River Behavioral Healthcare 895 State Farm Road, Suite 508 Boone, NC 28607-4996 828-264-9007	Region D COG P.O. Box 1820 155 Furman Road Boone, NC 28607 828-265-5434
Wayne	Wayne County Mental Health Center 301 North Herman Street Goldsboro, NC 27530-2971 919-731-1133	Eastern Carolina Council P.O. Box 1717 New Bern, NC 28563-1717 252-638-3185
Wilkes	New River Behavioral Healthcare 895 State Farm Road, Suite 508 Boone, NC 28607-4996 828-264-9007	Region D COG P.O. Box 1820 155 Furman Road Boone, NC 28607 828-265-5434
Wilson	Wilson-Greene Area MH/DD/SA Services 1709 Tarboro Street P.O. Box 3756 Wilson, NC 27895-3756 252-399-8021	Upper Coastal Plain COG P.O. Drawer 2748 Rocky Mount, NC 27802 252-446-0411

County	Area MH/DD/SAS Program	Regional Council of Governments (COG)
Yadkin	Crossroads Behavioral Health Care 200 Business Park Drive Elkin, NC 28621 336-835-1000	Northwest Piedmont COG 400 W. Fourth Street, Suite 400 Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2805 336-761-2111
Yancey	Blue Ridge Center for MH/DD/SA Services 356 Biltmore Avenue Asheville, NC 28801 828-258-3500	Region D COG P.O. Box 1820 155 Furman Road Boone, NC 28607 828-265-5434

Note: Some area MH/DD/SAS programs are operated as county agencies. Every area program has a board that advises the county on the operation of mental health services. County health departments have similar boards, which may also offer good opportunities for parents to become involved in significant ways.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Child Care Resource and Referral Network Members

(serving birth to 12 years)

Entries list the name of the agency, mailing address, website address and email address (if available), contact person, and telephone number. Listings are current as of April 2, 2002.

Statewide

N.C. Child Care Resource & Referral Network
P.O. Box 2515
Chapel Hill, NC 27515
Mary Bushnell
919/933-5090
919/933-0450

By county

Alamance

CCR&R of Alamance
711 Hermitage Rd.
Burlington, NC 27215
Email: ccrr@uwalamance.org
Crystal Williams
336/438-2020
336/438-2010

Alexander

Alexander County CCR&R
P.O. Box 1661
115 Wilkesboro Rd., Suite A
Taylorsville, NC 28681
Email: alexccrr@hotmail.com
Andra Ingle
828/632-3799
828/632-6411

Alleghany

Child Care Resources of Alleghany
348 South Main St.
P.O. Box 280
Sparta, NC 28675
Email: hallk@gw.wilkes.cc.nc.us
Katy Hall
336/372-9675
336/372-4306

Anson

Child Care Pathways
303 Eastview Street
Wadesboro, NC 28170
Email: vmccrr@vnet.net
Website: http://www.ansonsmartstart.org/
Vickie Molaro
704/694-4036
704/694-4010

Ashe

Ashe County CCR&R
626 Ashe Central School Unit 2
Jefferson, NC 28640
Email: asugirlamy@yahoo.com
Patricia Calloway
336/982-8870
336/982-8860

Avery

Child Care Choices
(Avery Co. Partnership for Children)
320 Pineola Street
Post Office Box 1455
Newland, NC 28657
Email: acpfc@skybest.com
Kathy Williams
828/733-2899
828/733-9122

Beaufort

Beaufort County CCR&R
1312 John Small Avenue
Washington, NC 27889
Email: ccrrbc4child@gotricounty.com
Website: http://www.beaufortcountykids.org/
Sarah Harrison
252/975-4647
252/975-4722

Bertie

Child Care Resources & Referral
P.O. Box 634
Windsor, NC 27983
Email: bertieccrr@schoollink.net
Christine Dudley
252/794-3438
252/794-2831

Bladen

Southeastern CCR&R
P.O. Box 151
Whiteville, NC 28472
Lauren Cole
919/642-8189
or
800/653-5212
910/642-7566

Brunswick

Child Care Resource & Referral of Brunswick County
4758 Main Street
P.O. Box 2232
Shallotte, NC 28459
Email: ccrrbc@infoave.net
Linda Rowley
910/755-3362
or
877/422-7710
910/755-3376

Buncombe

Buncombe County Child Care Services
38 Garfield, Suite A
Asheville, NC 28803
Email: kasperp@co.buncombe.nc.us
Patricia Kasper
828/255-5725
828/255-5767

Burke

Child Care Connections of Burke County, Inc.
304 W. Union Street
P.O. Box 630
Morganton, NC 28680
Email: jkvogler@msn.com
Karen Vogler
828/439-2328
828/439-2333

Cabarrus

Child Care Resources Inc. (satelite)
102 Lake Concord Road
Concord, NC 28025
Email: smcintyre@childcareesourcesinc.org
Website: http://www.childcare-experts.org/ccri/hp
Sherrie McIntyre
704/786-1023
704/786-1034

Caldwell

Choices in Child Care
609 Harper Avenue, S.W.
Lenoir, NC 28645
Valerie Collier
828/757-8605
828/757-8633

Camden

Albemarle CCR&R
1403 Parkview Drive
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Mary C. Douglass
252/333-3205
252/333-1201

Carteret

Carteret County CCR&R
305 Commerce Avenue
Morehead City, NC 28557
Susan Lynch
252/727-0445
252/727-0460

Caswell

Caswell County CCR&R
P.O. Box 220
126 Court Square
Yanceyville, NC 27379
Donna Pointer
336/694-4158
336/694-5930

Catawba

The Children's Resource Center
1985 Tate Blvd, S.E.
Hickory, NC 28602
Website: http://www.childcareservices.org/
Monica Thomas
828/328-8228
828/328-4551

Chatham

Child Care Networks
Brick City CCR&R 1531
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Amy Rabb
919/542-6644
919/542-0902

Cherokee

Southwestern CCR&R
P.O. Box 250
Webster, NC 28788
Vickie Ansley
828/586-5561
or
800/662-4158
828/586-4039

Chowan

Albemarle CCR&R
1403 Parkview Drive
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Mary C. Douglass
252/333-3205
252/333-1201

Clay

Southwestern CCR&R
P.O. Box 250
Webster, NC 28788
Vickie Ansley
828/586-5561
or
800/662-4158
828/586-4039

Cleveland

Child Care Connections
313 S. Dekalb Street
P.O. Box 1739
Shelby, NC 28151
Betty Denkler
704/482-5308
704/484-2524

Columbus

Southeastern CCR&R
P.O. Box 151
Whiteville, NC 28472
Lauren Cole
910/642-8189
or
800/653-5212
910/642-7566

Craven

CCR&R of Craven-Pamlico Counties
628 Hancock Street
New Bern, NC 28560
Cynthia Jackson
252/672-5921
252/672-5922

Cumberland

Child Care Solutions
351 Wagoner Drive, Suite 200
Fayetteville, NC 28303
Lynn Vick
910/860-2277
910/860-2217

Currituck

Albemarle CCR&R
1403 Parkview Drive
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Mary C. Douglass
252/333-3205
252/333-1201

Dare

Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County
Outer Banks Professional Center
2224 South Croatan Highway, #12
Nags Head, NC 27959
Margie White
252/441-4737
252/441-3580

Davidson

Child Care Connection
1410 Piedmont Drive
Lexington, NC 27295
Deborah Carson
336/249-0216
336/249-6687

Duplin

Duplin County Partnership for Children
Child Care Resource and Referral
P.O. Box 989
149 Limestone Road
Kenansville, NC 28349
Mary Paluck
910/296-2000
910/296-1497

Durham

Child Care Services
2634 Chapel Hill Blvd., Suite 100
Durham, NC 27707
Website: http://www.childcareservices.org/
Susan Perry-Manning
919/403-6950
919/403-6959

Edgecombe

Down East Partnership for Children - CCR&R
215 Lexington Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27802
Website: http://www.depc.org/
Lessie Creecy
252/985-4300
252/985-4319

Forsyth

Work/Family Resource Ctr.
322 N. Spring Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Website: http://www.ccrr.org/
Katura Jackson
336/761-5100
336/761-5107

Franklin

Child Care Resource & Referral of Franklin, Granville, Vance
P.O. Box 142
803 S. Garnett Street
Henderson, NC 27536
Website: http://www.fgvpartnership.org/
Kathie Boling
252/433-9110
252/433-9230

Gaston

Child Care Information
P.O. Box 1695
Gastonia, NC 28053
Website: http://www.childcareinformation.org/
Jo McArn
704/922-0199
704/922-3188

Gates

Albemarle CCR&R
1403 Parkview Drive
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Mary C. Douglass
252/333-3205
252/333-1201

Graham

Southwestern CCR&R
P.O. Box 250
Webster, NC 28788
Vickie Ansley
828/586-5561
or
800/662-4158
828/586-4039

Granville

Child Care Resource & Referral of Franklin, Granville, Vance
P.O. Box 142
803 S. Garnett Street
Henderson, NC 27536
Website: http://www.fgvpartnership.org/
Kathie Boling
252/433-9110
252/433-9230

Greene

Lenoir-Green CCR&R
P.O. Box 6490
Kinston, NC 28502
Elizabeth Ray
252/747-3331
252/526-5153

Guilford

Child Care Information Program of United Child Development Services, Inc
1200 Arlington Street
Greensboro, NC 27406
Website: http://www.ucdccip.org/
Joyce Fairley
910/378-7702
910/378-7708

Halifax

Halifax County CCR&R Services
P.O. Box 402
Halifax, NC 27839
Barbara Smith-Hill
252/535-4715
252/537-9732

Harnett

Harnett County CCR&R
102 East Front Street
P.O. Box 1089
Lillington, NC 27546
Website: http://www.harnettsmartstart.org/
Alice Thomas
910/893-7535
910/893-7539

Haywood

Southwestern CCR&R
P.O. Box 250
Webster, NC 28788
Vickie Ansley
828/586-5561
or
800/662-4158
828/586-4039

Henderson

CCR&R of Henderson County
P.O. Box 1105
Henderson, NC 28793
Mary Bradford
828/698-0674
828/698-5532

Hertford

Hertford Co. Partnership for Children - CCR&R
711 E. Vance Street
P.O. Box 504
Murfreesboro, NC 27855
Cheryl Bowen
252/398-4124
252/398-3965

Hoke

Child Care Connections (Moore satelite)
1089 E. Central Avenue, Suite A
Raeford, NC 28376
Jackie Hargrove
910/904-6688
910/904-7140

Iredell

Child Care Solutions of Iredell County
132 E. Broad Street
Statesville, NC 28677
Website: http://www.iredellsmartstart.org/
Helen Watkins

Jackson

Southwestern CCR&R
P.O. Box 250
Webster, NC 28788
Vickie Ansley
828/586-5561
or
800/662-4158
828/586-4039

Johnston

CCR&R of Johnston County
1200 S. Pollock Street
Selma, NC 27576
Website: http://www.johnstoncountykids.org/
Angela Bogle
919/202-0002
919/202-0902

Jones

Carteret County CCR&R
305 Commerce Avenue
Morehead City, NC 28557
Susan Lynch
252/727-0445
252/727-0460

Lee

Brick City CCR&R
102 Wicker Street
PMB 238
Sanford, NC 27330
Gina Smith
919/776-7157
919/776-5540

Lenoir

Lenoir-Green CCR&R
P.O. Box 6490
Kinston, NC 28502
Elizabeth Ray
252/526-5000
252/526-5153

Lincoln

Child Care Information
P.O. Box 1695
Gastonia, NC 28053
Website: http://www.childcareinformation.org/
Jo McAnn
704/736-9991
704/922-3188

Macon

Southwestern CCR&R
P.O. Box 250
Webster, NC 28788
Vickie Ansley
828/586-5561
or
800/662-4158
828/586-4039

Madison

Madison County CCR&R
P.O. Box 545
Marshall, NC 28753
June Trev
828/649-3684
828/649-9373

Martin

ChildLinks
111B Eastbrook Drive
Greenville, NC 27858
Lisa Camp
252/758-8885
252/758-2627

McDowell

Children's Services Network
54 Universal Drive
Marion, NC 28752
Website: http://www.mcdowelltech.cc.nc.us/
Joy Griffith
828/652-4249
828/652-1014

Mecklenburg

Child Care Resources Inc.
700 Kenilworth Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28204
Website: http://www.childcare-experts.org/ccri/hp
Janet Singerman
704/376-6697
704/376-7865

Mitchell

Mitchell/Yancey Counties CCR&R
P.O. Box 1387
99 School Circle
Burnsville, NC 28714
LuBerta Jones
828/682-0717
828/682-0717

Montgomery

Child Care Central
404A North Main Street
Troy, NC 27371
Linda Caliri
910/576-2363
910/576-2562

Moore

Child Care Connections of Moore County
P.O. Box 1139
Southern Pines, NC 28387
Deborah Simmons
910/944-2443
910/944-3081

Nash

Down East Partnership for Children CCR&R
215 Lexington Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27802
Website: http://www.depc.org/
Lessie Creecy
252/985-4300
252/985-4319

New Hanover

Child Advocacy Commission, CCR&R
1401 39th Street
P.O. Box 4305
Wilmington, NC 28406
Clancy Thompson
910/791-6270
910/791-2441

Northampton

Northampton CCR&R
125 W. Jefferson Street
Jackson, NC 27845
Cathy Whitaker
252/534-1656
252/534-1568

Onslow

Onslow County Partnership for Children
201 New Bridge Street
Jacksonville, NC 28540
Sebrina Phillips
910/938-0336
910/938-3941

Orange

Child Care Services Association
P.O. Box 901
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Website: http://www.childcareservices.org/
Sue Russell
919/967-3272
919/967-7683

Pamlico

CCR&R of Craven-Pamlico Counties
628 Hancock Street
New Bern, NC 28560
Cynthia Jackson
252/672-5921
252/672-5922

Pasquotank

Albemarle CCR&R
305 South Road Street
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Mary C. Douglass
252/333-3205
252/333-1201

Pender

Pender County Partnership for Children
1411 U.S. Highway 117 South
Brugaw, NC 28425
Nicole Williams
910/259-5263
910/259-9728

Perquimans

Albemarle CCR&R
1403 Parkview Drive
Elizabeth City, Nc 27909
Mary C. Douglass
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252/333-1201

Person

Person County Partnership for Children - CCR&R
P.O. Box 1791
23 Reams Avenue
Roxboro, NC 27573
Website: http://www.personpartnershipforchildren.org/
Cindy Watkins
336/599-1240
336/599-3999

Pitt

ChildLinks
111B Eastbrook Drive
Greenville, NC 27858
Lisa Camp
252/758-8885
252/758-2627

Polk

Family Resources, Inc. CCR&R of Rutherford County
668 Withrow Road
P.O. Box 845
Spindale, NC 28160
Lori Herrick
828/286-3411
282/286-3417

Richmond

Richmond County Partnership for Children
P.O. Box 1944
Rockingham, NC 28380
Website: http://www.richmondsmartstart.org/
Holly Keller
910/997-3773
910/997-5432

Robeson

Child Care Directions (satellite office)
P.O. Box 3265
Lumberton, NC 29359
Angela Summer
910/671-8335
910/671-8332

Rockingham

Rockingham County Partnership for Children
P.O. Box 325
Wentworth, NC 27320
Sharon Johnson
336/342-9676
336/342-9962

Rutherford

Family Resources
P.O. Box 845
Spindale, NC 28160
Lori Herrick
828/286-3411
828/286-3417
or
828/286-8413

Sampson

Child Care Choices of Sampson County
P.O. Box 1671
208 W. Main Street
Clinton, NC 28328
Website: http://www.scpcsmartstartexpress.org/
Becky Williams
910/592-9399
910/592-9304

Scotland

Child Care Directions
227 Main Street, Room 318
P.O. Box 911
Laurinburg, NC 28352
Barbara Frye
910/276-3367
910/277-7260

Stanly

Stanly County Partnership for Children CCR&R
1000 N. First Street, Suite 8
Albemarle, NC 28002
Darlene Burris
704/982-0286
704/983-8981

Stokes

Stokes CCR&R
P.O. Box 974
506 S. Main Street
Walnut Cove, NC 27052
Shannon Montgomery
336/591-4385
336/591-4114

Surry

Surry County Early Childhood Partnership
817 W. Pine Street
Mt. Airy, NC 27030
Website: http://www.surrychildren.org/
Linda Jacobs
336/786-1880
336/786-1879

Swain

Southwestern CCR&R
P.O. Box 250
Webster, NC 28788
Vickie Ansley
828/586-5561
or
800/662-4158
828/586-4039

Transylvania

Transylvania County CCR&R
299 S. Broad Street
Brevard, NC 28712
Kae Parker
828/884-3116
828/884-3270

Union

Child Care Resources Inc.
1502 Charlotte Ave., Suite B
Monroe, NC 28110
Website: http://childcare-experts.org/ccri/hp.html
Sherrie McIntyre
704/238-8800
704/238-8800

Vance

Child Care Resource & Referral of Franklin, Granville, Vance
P.O. Box 142
803 S. Garnett Street
Henderson, NC 27536
Website: http://www.fgvpartnership.org/
Kathie Boling
252/433-9110
252/433-9230

Wake

CCR&R of Wake County
4 North Blount Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
Website: http://www.childcarewakecounty.org/
Carey Carlberg
919/832-7175
919/832-7903

Warren

Halifax-Warren CCR&R
1139 Roanoke Avenue
Roanoke Rapids NC 27879
Barbara Smith-Hill
252/535-4715
252/537-9732

Washington

Washington County Child Advocacy Council
211 Washington Street
Plymouth, NC 27962
Debra Wilkens
252/793-1470
252/793-1526

Watauga

Children's Council of CCR&R
155 Furman Road, Suite #3
Boone, NC 28607
Diane Sherman
828/262-5424
828/262-5422

Wayne

Wayne CCR&R
102 S. William St., Suite B
Goldsboro, NC 27530
Website: http://www.waynesmartstart.org/
David Poythress
919/735-6402
919/735-6403

Wilkes

Wilkes CCR&R
1006 F Street
Wilkesboro, NC 28659
Website: http://www.wilkessmartstart.com/
Regina Dimmette
336/838-0977
336/838-0782

Wilson

Wilson County Partnership for Children, Inc.
P.O. Box 2661
113 E. Nash Street, Suite 305
Wilson, NC 27893
Susan Brinson
252/206-4106
252-206-4245

Yadkin

Yadkin County Partnership for Children
P.O. Box 39
Yadkinville, NC 27055
Dwight Morris
336/679-7922
336/679-6692

Yancey

Mitchell/Yancey Counties CCR&R
P.O. Box 1387
99 School Circle
Burnsville, NC 28714
LuBerta Jones
828/682-0717
828/682-0717

Area Health Education Centers

AHEC Central Office Liaison
CB#7165, Wing C
UNC–Chapel Hill School of Medicine
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7165
919/966-0802
919/966-5830 (fax)
Director: Karen Stallings, MEd
Office Asst.: Faye Fogleman
Email: faye_fogelman@med.unc.edu

Area L AHEC
P.O. Drawer 7368
Rocky Mount, NC 27804-0368
252/972-6958
252/972-0419 (fax)
Director: Brenda B. Remmes, MEd
Bbremmes@med.unc.edu
Program Asst.: Debbie Wells

Charlotte AHEC
P.O. Box 32861
Charlotte, NC 28232-2861
704/355-3120 and 704/355-3757
704/355-5899 (fax)
Director: Barbara Hess, Med
Email: Bhess@carolinas.org
Admin. Asst.: B.J. Hilliard
Minority Workforce Development: Yvonne Paulding

Coastal AHEC
P.O. Box 9025
Wilmington, NC 28402-9025
910/343-0161
910/762-9203 (fax)
Director: Sheryl Pacelli, MEd
Email: Sbend@med.unc.edu
Program Asst.: Linda Whitehurst

Eastern AHEC
P.O. Box 7224
Greenville, NC 27835-7224
252/816-5228 or 5215
252/816-5229 (fax)
Director: Debbie Caton, MA
Caton@brody.med.ecu.edu
Asst. Director: Kelly Dickens, MS
Email: Kdickens@brody.med.ecu.edu

Greensboro AHEC
1200 N. Elm Street
Greensboro, NC 27401
336/832-8025
336/832-7591 (fax)
Director: Rose Hood, ACSW, CCSW
Email: rose.hood@mosescone.com
Coordinator: Bob Iddings, EdS, LPC
Email: bob.iddings@mosescone.com

Mountain AHEC
501 Biltmore Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801
828/257-4481
828/257-4768 (fax)
Director: Karen Blicher, CCSW, CHT
Email: Karenb@shamu.mtn.ncahaec.org
Asst. Director: Leslie McCrory, MA, CSAC
Email: Lesliem@shamu.mtn.ncahec.org
Asst. Director: Jeri Willett, MSW, CCSW
Email: Jeriw@shamu.mtn.ncahec.org

Northwest AHEC
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Medical Center Blvd..
Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1060
336/713/7001
336/713-7027 (fax)
Director: Ann Graves, MSW, ACSW
Email: agraves@wfubmc.edu
Assoc. Director: Larry Freeman, Dmin, CSAC
Email: lfreeman@wfubms.edu

Southern Regional AHEC
1601 Owen Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28304
910/678-7212
910/678-0126 (fax)
Director: Darvin Williams
Email: darvin.williams@sr-ahec.org
Program Asst.: Loretta Perry

Community Colleges

North Carolina has 58 comprehensive community colleges and one specialized technology center, listed alphabetically below. The system serves all 100 counties. Individual colleges have service areas that may include one or several counties. Students may, however, apply to institutions of their choice, regardless of their counties of residence. Listings are current as of April 2, 2002.

Alamance Community College
P.O. Box 8000
Graham, NC 27253-8000
(336) 578-2002, voice
(336) 578-1987, fax
17-49-01, State courier number
Dr. Martin Nadelman, President

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College
340 Victoria Road
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 254-1921, voice
(828) 251-6355, fax
12-64-01, State courier number
Kenneth Ray Bailey, President

Beaufort County Community College
P.O. Box 1069
Washington, NC 27889
(252) 946-6194, voice
(252) 946-0271, fax
16-03-01, State courier number
Dr. David McLawhorn, President

Bladen Community College
P.O. Box 266
Dublin, NC 28332
(910) 862-2164, voice
(910) 862-3484, fax
04-28-01, State courier number
Dr. Darrell Page, President

Blue Ridge Community College
College Drive
Flat Rock, NC 28731
(828) 694-1700, voice
(828) 694-1690, fax
06-76-01, State courier number
Dr. David Sink, President

Brunswick Community College
P.O. Box 30
Supply, NC 28462
(910) 755-7300, voice
(910) 754-7805, fax
04-24-01, State courier number
Dr. Michael Reaves, President

Caldwell Community College/TI
2855 Hickory Blvd
Hudson, NC 28638
(828) 726-2200, voice
(828) 726-2216, fax
15-26-22, State courier number
Dr. Kenneth A. Boham, President

Cape Fear Community College
411 North Front Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
(910) 251-5100, voice
(910) 763-2279, fax
04-12-06, State courier number
Dr. Eric McKeithan, President

Carteret Community College
3505 Arendell Street
Morehead City, NC 28557
(252) 222-6000, voice
(252) 222-6219, fax
11-12-08, State courier number
Dr. Joseph T. Barwick, President

Catawba Valley Community College
2550 Highway 70 SE
Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 327-7000, voice
(828) 327-7276, fax
09-72-01, State courier number
Dr. Cuyler Dunbar, President

Central Carolina Community College
1105 Kelly Drive
Sanford, NC 27330
(919) 775-5401, voice
(919) 775-1221, fax
14-43-14, State courier number
Dr. Marvin R. Joyner, President

Central Piedmont Community College
P.O. Box 35009
Charlotte, NC 28235
(704) 330-2722, voice
(704) 330-5045, fax
05-18-40, State courier number
Dr. Paul Anthony Zeiss, President

Cleveland Community College
137 South Post Road
Shelby, NC 28152-6296
(704) 484-4000, voice
(704) 484-4036, fax
06-52-04, State courier number
Dr. L. Steve Thornburg, President

Coastal Carolina Community College
444 Western Boulevard
Jacksonville, NC 28546-6899
(910) 455-1221, voice
(910) 455-7027, fax
11-07-26, State courier number
Dr. Ronald K. Lingle, President

College of the Albemarle
P.O. Box 2327
Elizabeth City, NC 27909-2327
(252) 335-0821, voice
(252) 335-2011, fax
10-39-32, State courier number
Dr. Sylvester E. McKay, President

Craven Community College
800 College Ct.
New Bern, NC 28562
(252) 638-4131, voice
(252) 638-4232, fax
16-62-01, State courier number
Dr. Lewis S. Redd, President

Davidson Community College
P.O. Box 1287
Lexington, NC 27293-1287
(336) 249-8186, voice
(336) 249-0088, fax
13-53-20, State courier number
Dr. J. Bryan Brooks, President

Durham Technical Community College
1637 Lawson St.
Durham, NC 27703
(919) 686-3300, voice
(919) 686-3601, fax
17-21-01, State courier number
Dr. Phail Wynn, Jr., President

Edgecombe Community College
2009 W Wilson St
Tarboro, NC 27886
(252) 823-5166, voice
(252) 823-6817, fax
07-51-11, State courier number
Dr. Hartwell H. Fuller, Jr., President

Fayetteville Technical Community College
P.O. Box 35236
Fayetteville, NC 28303-0236
(910) 678-8400, voice
(910) 484-6600, fax
14-51-41, State courier number
Dr. Larry B. Norris, President

Forsyth Technical Community College
2100 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-5197
(336) 723-0371, voice
(336) 761-2399, fax
13-05-01, State courier number
Dr. Gary M. Green, President

Gaston College
201 Highway 321 South
Dallas, NC 28034-1499
(704) 922-6200, voice
(704) 922-6440, fax
06-33-01, State courier number
Dr. Patricia A. Skinner, President

Guilford Technical Community College
P.O. Box 309
Jamestown, NC 27282
(336) 334-4822, voice
(336) 454-2510, fax
13-29-01, State courier number
Dr. Donald W. Cameron, President

Halifax Community College
P.O. Drawer 809
Weldon, NC 27890
(252) 536-2551, voice
(252) 536-4144, fax
07-47-01, State courier number
Dr. Theodore Gasper, Jr., President

Haywood Community College
185 Freedlander Drive
Clyde, NC 28721
(828) 627-2821, voice
(828) 627-3606, fax
08-10-01, State courier number
Dr. Nathan Hodges, President

Isothermal Community College
P.O. Box 804
Spindale, NC 28160
(828) 286-3636, voice
(828) 286-1120, fax
06-63-04, State courier number
Dr. Willard L. Lewis, III, President

James Sprunt Community College
P.O. Box 398
Kenansville, NC 28349-0398
(910) 296-2400, voice
(910) 296-1636, fax
11-20-10, State courier number
Dr. Mary Wood, President

Johnston Community College
P.O. Box 2350
Smithfield, NC 27577
(919) 934-3051, voice
(919) 209-2142, fax
01-65-35, State courier number
Dr. Donald Reichard, President

Lenoir Community College
P.O. Box 188
Kinston, NC 28502-0188
(252) 527-6223, voice
(252) 527-1199, fax
01-23-27, State courier number
Joyce G. Cherry, Interim President

Martin Community College
1161 Kehukee Park Road
Williamston, NC 27892
(252) 792-1521, voice
(252) 792-4425, fax
10-81-09, State courier number
Dr. Ann R. Britt, President

Mayland Community College
200 Mayland Drive
P.O. Box 547
Spruce Pine, NC 28777
(828) 765-7351, voice
(828) 765-0728, fax
12-70-01, State courier number
Dr. Thomas E. Williams, President

McDowell Technical Community College
54 College Drive
Marion, NC 28752
(828) 652-6021, voice
(828) 652-1014, fax
12-91-03, State courier number
Dr. Virginia Mitchell, President

Mitchell Community College
500 West Broad St
Statesville, NC 28677
(704) 878-3200, voice
(704) 878-0872, fax
09-32-08, State courier number
Dr. Douglas Eason, President

Montgomery Community College
1011 Page Street
Troy, NC 27371
(910) 576-6222, voice
(910) 576-2176, fax
03-97-20, State courier number
Dr. Mary P. Kirk, President

Nash Community College
522 N. Old Carriage Road
Rocky Mount, NC 27804-7488
(252) 443-4011, voice
(252) 937-2712, fax
07-70-01, State courier number
Dr. Katherine M. Johnson, President

Pamlico Community College
P.O. Box 185
Grantsboro, NC 28529
(252) 249-1851, voice
(252) 249-2377, fax
Dr. Francis Marion Altman, Jr., President

Piedmont Community College
P.O. Box 1197
Roxboro, NC 27573
(336) 599-1181, voice
(336) 597-3817, fax
02-32-10, State courier number
Dr. H. James Owen, President

Pitt Community College
P.O. Drawer 7007
Greenville, NC 27835-7007
(252) 321-4200, voice
(252) 321-4401, fax
01-45-28, State courier number
Dr. Charles E. Russell, President

Randolph Community College
P.O. Box 1009
Asheboro, NC 27204-1009
(336) 633-0200, voice
(336) 629-4695, fax
13-65-20, State courier number
Dr. Richard T. Heckman, President

Richmond Community College
P.O. Box 1189
Hamlet, NC 28345
(910) 582-7000, voice
(910) 582-7028, fax
03-80-03, State courier number
Dr. Diane Honeycutt, Interim President

Roanoke-Chowan Community College
109 Community College Road
Ahoskie, NC 27910-9522
(252) 862-1200, voice
(252) 862-1358, fax
10-11-10, State courier number
Dr. Mary C. Wyatt, President

Robeson Community College
P.O. Box 1420
Lumberton, NC 28359
(910) 738-7101, voice
(910) 618-5685, fax
14-93-02, State courier number
Fred G. Williams, Jr., President

Rockingham Community College
P.O. Box 38
Wentworth, NC 27375-0038
(336) 342-4261, voice
(336) 349-9986, fax
02-23-05, State courier number
Dr. Robert C. Keys, President

Rowan-Cabarrus Community College
P.O. Box 1595
Salisbury, NC 28145-1595
(704) 637-0760, voice
(704) 637-3692, fax
05-32-03, State courier number
Dr. Richard L. Brownell, President

Sampson Community College
P.O. Drawer 318, Hwy 24 West
Clinton, NC 28329-0318
(910) 592-8081, voice
(910) 592-8048, fax
11-34-32, State courier number
Dr. William C. Aiken, President

Sandhills Community College
3395 Airport Road
Pinehurst, NC 28374
(910) 692-6185, voice
(910) 695-1823, fax
03-43-01, State courier number
Dr. John R. Dempsey, President

South Piedmont Community College
P.O. Box 126
Polkton, NC 28135
(704) 272-7635, voice
(704) 272-8904, fax
03-83-01, State courier number
Dr. Donald Paul Altieri, President

Southeastern Community College
P.O. Box 151
Whiteville, NC 28472
(910) 642-7141, voice
(910) 642-5658, fax
04-22-24, State courier number
Dr. Brantley Briley, President

Southwestern Community College
447 College Drive
Sylva, NC 28779
(828) 586-4091 or
(800) 447-4091, voice
(828) 586-3129, fax
08-23-14, State courier number
Dr. Cecil L. Groves, President

Stanly Community College
141 College Drive
Albemarle, NC 28001
(704) 982-0121, voice
(704) 982-0819, fax
03-20-03, State courier number
Dr. Michael R. Taylor, President

Surry Community College
Box 304
Dobson, NC 27017
(336) 386-8121, voice
(336) 386-8951, fax
09-91-01, State courier number
Dr. Frank Sells, President

Tri-County Community College
4600 Highway 64 East
Murphy, NC 28906
(828) 837-6810, voice
(828) 837-3266, fax
08-53-06, State courier number
Dr. Norman Oglesby, President

Vance-Granville Community College
Box 917
Henderson, NC 27536
(252) 492-2061, voice
(252) 430-0460, fax
07-20-01, State courier number
Mr. Robert A. Miller, President

Wake Technical Community College
9101 Fayetteville Road
Raleigh, NC 27603
(919) 662-3400, voice
(919) 779-3360, fax
14-79-01, State courier number
Dr. Bruce I. Howell, President

Wayne Community College
P.O. Box 8002
Goldsboro, NC 27533-8002
(919) 735-5151, voice
(919) 736-9425, fax
01-13-20, State courier number
Dr. Edward H. Wilson, President

Western Piedmont Community College
1001 Burkemont Avenue
Morganton, NC 28655
(828) 438-6000, voice
(828) 438-6015, fax
15-06-01, State courier number
Dr. Jim Richardson, President

Wilkes Community College
P.O. Box 120
Wilkesboro, NC 28697
(336) 838-6100, voice
(336) 838-6277, fax
15-11-04, State courier number
Dr. Gordon G. Burns, Jr., President

Wilson Technical Community College
P.O. Box 4305
Wilson, NC 27893
(252) 291-1195, voice
(252) 243-7148, fax
01-51-04, State courier number
Dr. Frank L. Eagles, President

NC Center for Applied Textile Technology
P.O. Box 1044
Belmont, NC 28012
(704) 825-3737, voice
(704) 825-7303, fax
Dr. James Lemons, President

Families of Children with Special Needs

The **Parent Leadership Development Project** (PLD) offers education to parents of young children (birth to 5) with special needs. The PLD project both empowers and supports families, giving them a voice in improving early intervention services for *all* young children and families.

The PLD project is housed at FPG Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Funding is provided by the US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), with additional funding from the NC Department of Health & Human Services, Early Intervention Branch, and Children & Youth Branch of the Division of Public Health.

Virginia Buysse, Ph.D. and Pat Wesley, M.Ed. are Co-Directors of PLD, guided, in part, by the statewide Family Leadership Project, which has produced a vision of family leadership for North Carolina. Our new brochure, *Involving Families as Leaders in Early Education & Intervention Programs*, includes this vision, as well as core values, family leadership roles, strategies, and resources to support family leadership.

The PLD project sponsors parent leadership retreats in the eastern, central, and western regions of North Carolina to help participants develop leadership skills, including the skills to communicate families' needs, advise professionals, advocate for change, and present information to diverse audiences.

The objectives of the retreats are to help families:

- learn about the early care and intervention system,
- identify other state and local resources for young children and families,
- meet other parents and professionals in leadership roles, and
- develop leadership skills such as public speaking, serving on a task force or advisory board, or acting as a mentor to another parent.

The *PLD Facilitator Guide* and *Participant Notebook*, which describe the content and activities involved in parent leadership retreats, are now available.

To order copies, contact the **FPG Publications Department** at **pubs@mail.fpg.unc.edu**.

You can reach our project assistant at **allen_stutts@unc.edu** to order the brochure *Involving Families as Leaders*.

The toll free number for PLD is **1-866-295-5417**.

For more information, visit our web site at **www.fpg.unc.edu/~pld**.

Parent Leadership Development Project

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
National Library of Education (NLE)
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